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NEARBY

CM's Dashboard launched

BENGALURU
The Chief Minister's Dashboard, a platform that provides real-time, integrated insights into key development indicators across Karnataka, was launched on Friday.
» Page 8

Manivannan is new BDA Commissioner

BENGALURU
The State government on Friday appointed 1998-batch IAS officer Manivannan P., Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, as the Commissioner of the Bangalore Development Authority with concurrent charge. » Page 6

Kannada poet HSV passes away

BENGALURU
Kannada poet H.S. Venkatesha Murthy (HSV), 81, passed away in Bengaluru in the wee hours of Friday. He was suffering from age-related ailments.
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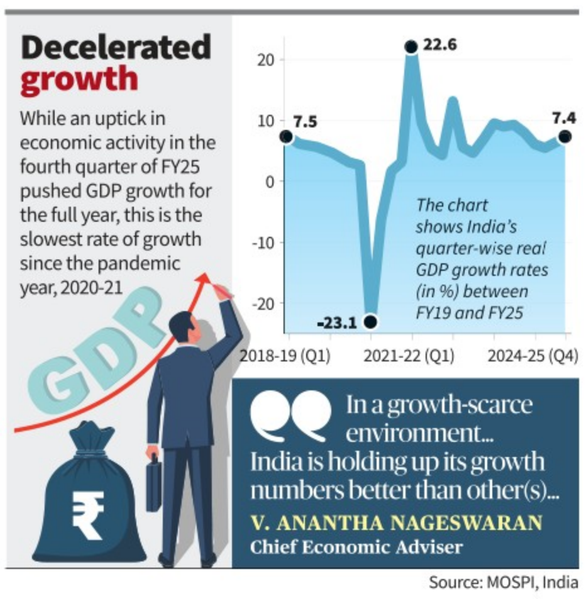
PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 7

GDP growth at 6.5% in 2024-25, slowest since the pandemic

Though real GDP growth in Q4 accelerated to 7.4%, the fastest quarterly growth in 2024-25, it was still slower than 8.4% in Q4 of the previous fiscal

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI


Decelerated growth
While an uptick in economic activity in the fourth quarter of FY25 pushed GDP growth for the full year, this is the slowest rate of growth since the pandemic year, 2020-21
22.6
7.5
7.4
-23.1
20
10
0
-10
-20
2018-19 (Q1)
2021-22 (Q1)
2024-25 (Q4)
The chart shows India's quarter-wise real GDP growth rates (in %) between FY19 and FY25
GDP
In a growth-scarce environment... India is holding up its growth numbers better than other(s)...
V. ANANTHA NAGESWARAN
Chief Economic Adviser
Source: MOSPI, India

While a significant uptick in economic activity in the fourth quarter (Q4) of financial year 2024-25 pushed Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for the full year to 6.5%, as per the provisional estimates for 2024-25 released by the government on Friday, this is the slowest since the pandemic year 2020-21.

As per data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, real GDP growth in Q4 of 2024-25 accelerated to 7.4%, the fastest quarterly growth in the year. It was still slower than 8.4% growth seen in Q4 of the previous financial year. Quarterly GDP growth in Q3 stood at 6.4%.

'India held its own'

Chief Economic Adviser V. Anantha Nageswaran, in a press briefing following the release of the data, sought to downplay the post-COVID slowdown of the economy, saying that India has held its own in a "growth-scarce" global environment. "If you look in real terms, India's growth rate differential in comparison to the average growth rate of advanced economies was on the lower side during the 'boom era' between 2003 and 2010," Mr. Nageswaran explained. "The growth differential post COVID is higher than the growth differential in the 'boom era'."

"In other words, in a growth-scarce environment post COVID and despite the rising uncertainties due to political conflicts and trade tensions, India is holding up its growth numbers better than many advanced economies," he added.

The agriculture sector continued its strong performance in Q4, leading to a relatively strong showing for the full year.

CONTINUED ON
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At least five killed as rains wreak havoc in Dakshina Kannada district

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Incessant rains wreaked havoc in Dakshina Kannada district. Three persons lost their lives in a landslip and a girl died in a wall collapse on the outskirts of Mangaluru, a youth died in a reported electrocution incident near Belthangady and two fishermen have been reported missing after their boat capsized at an estuary in Mangaluru, on Friday.

Three members of a family, a woman and two grandchildren, died when their house near Montepadavu, on the outskirts of Mangaluru, was covered by mud following a landslip at about 4 a.m. The deceased were identified as Prema, 54, and her grandchildren Aryan, 3, and Arush, 2.

Prema's husband Kantappa Poojary, owner of the house, managed to extricate himself. His son, Seetharama, and daughter-in-law, Ashwini, were rescued later. The three have been admitted to a hospital.

Workers carrying out rescue operations near Montepadavu on the outskirts of Mangaluru, where three people died following a landslip on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Girl dies

In a separate incident, Fathima, aged around 10, died when the retaining wall behind her house at Kanakere, Belma village, near Deralakatte on the outskirts of Mangaluru, collapsed. The window of the house fell on her when the retaining wall gave way. She was taken to hospital but could not be saved.

Two fishermen missing

Two fishermen have been reported missing after their boat capsized near an estuary at Tota Bengre in Mangaluru, following heavy rains and wind early on Friday. Their were identified as Yashwant and Kamalaksha. The boat is also missing while its diesel tank was washed ashore at Tota Bengre. Search is on for the missing fishermen and the boat.

Electrocuted

Reports reaching here said that Vijesh Jain, 27, an assistant powerman with Mescom, was electrocuted when working on a high tension powerline at Amarajalu, Kuvettu village, near Belthangady. The Belthangady police have registered a case.

Several areas flooded

Several areas in Mangaluru city, such as Jeppinamogaru, Rao and Rao Circle, Mission Street, Kopparahitlu, and Kottara Chowki were flooded, with water entering many houses in Jeppinamogaru; there were also reports of trees falling.

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Shah pledges help for shell-hit areas in J&K

Peerzada Ashiq
JAMMU

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday promised to work out a comprehensive relief package and build more underground shelters for border residents affected by Pakistan Army's shelling in J&K. Touring the shelling-affected residential areas of Poonch, he said the damage inflicted on the nine Pakistani air bases by India forced it "to come forward for a ceasefire proposal".

"On the night of May 7, terror headquarters and other centres in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Pakistan were destroyed in response to the cowardly Pahalgam attack. Precise intelligence and measured targets by the security agencies saw that there was no civilian death and the Pakistan Army was not targeted, though hundreds of terrorists were killed," Mr. Shah said.

"Shaken, Pakistan took it as an attack on itself. It proved before the world that Pakistan provides safe havens to terrorists. Next day, J&K's residential areas were targeted by shelling by Pakistan, with Poonch being the worst affected. It was only when Pakistan's nine air bases were damaged, it came forward for a compromise," he said.

Taking stock: Union Home Minister Amit Shah meets residents in Poonch on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Give up Azhar, Saeed before talks: Rajnath

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said that if Pakistan was serious about holding talks with India, it should first hand over Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) chief Hafiz Saeed and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) founder Masood Azhar.

Speaking onboard INS *Vikrant* off the Goa coast, Mr. Singh described Operation Sindoor as "India's frontal assault against terrorism" and warned that "if Pakistan resorted to anything evil, it would face the Indian Navy's firepower".

He said the Navy had transformed into a strategic force, significantly strengthening India's maritime presence. "It warns the enemy that India is no longer just a regional power, it is becoming a global power," he said.

CONTINUED ON
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The Minister said under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's new defence policy, India demonstrated that response to such condemnable attacks "would be of the same intensity".

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Trump blasts trade court after partial legal win on tariffs

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump celebrated a temporary legal win as a court preserved his aggressive tariffs, triggering mixed reactions on Friday across jittery financial markets.

The short-term relief will allow the appeals process to proceed after the U.S. Court of International Trade barred most of the tariffs announced since Mr. Trump took office, ruling on Wednesday that he had overstepped his authority.

Welcoming the latest twist in the legal skirmishes over his trade policies, Mr. Trump lashed out at the Manhattan-based trade court, calling it "horrible" and saying its blockade should be "quickly and decisively" reversed for good.

Asian shares fell on Friday, reversing a rally across world markets the previous day, as the judicial wrangling around Mr. Trump's on-again-off-again tariffs fanned uncertainty. Paris, London and Frankfurt were all in the green as EU trade chief Maros Sefcovic said following a call with U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick that the bloc was "fully invested" in reaching a deal with the U.S.

> The county stint has helped to understand my game more... there will be times a batsman finds it tough to score, but it is important to hang in there and play the ball on its merit

Karun Nair: the man who refused to give up on cricket and the man cricket refused to give up on

Eight years after he last played a Test, the 33-year-old has returned to national contention. One of only two Indians to score a Test triple-hundred, Karun endured moments of despair in the wilderness. But he never stopped believing — his conviction and hard work have borne fruit with his selection for the England tour

P.K. Ajith Kumar

NIRMAL HARINDRAN

As Usman Ghani watched, from Vidarbha's dressing room, Karun Nair bat as if he had been possessed by the spirit of Don Bradman in game after game during the Vijay Hazare Trophy early this year, he remembered a conversation he had had with the born-again cricketer.

"I have at least another three or four years of international cricket left in me," Karun had told the coach after returning from a second county stint with Northamptonshire in England last year.

Unreal run

And after his unreal run in India's premier fifty-over tournament, with scores of 112 not out, 44 not out, 163 not out, 111 not out, 112, 122 not out, and 88 not out in successive innings, Karun had hopes of making it to the Indian team for the Champions Trophy.

> You can imagine how difficult that phase of my life must have been. My parents and my wife were my pillars all through. Those times made me understand people

Ghani, too, felt Karun would be picked. But, he wasn't. His comeback to international cricket would have to wait. Not any longer, though.

Karun was first named in the India-A side for the England tour. And then in the Indian Test squad. There was almost an air of inevitability to it: even if the last Test he played was eight years ago. This is indeed one of Indian cricket's most remarkable comebacks. Something even Mohinder Amarnath, the father of all comebacks, may approve of.

The selectors could afford to ignore Karun for the Champions Trophy: they had the cushion of Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, after all. Karun, however, continued to amass runs against the red ball, too, and played a major role in Vidarbha regaining the Ranji Trophy. His 135 in the second innings shut Kerala out of the final; he could have scored a hundred in the first innings as well, but was run out for 86.

He swept and reverse-swept to neutralise the threat from Kerala's best bowler Jalaj Saxena. His determination to take his side to a position from where it could not lose was admirable. The ability to play long innings has always been one of his qualities, something the Test team could find useful.

Ghani is also impressed by Karun's dedication. "He gives his best every time, even at the nets, and I was so happy when the selectors finally had to select him," the coach told *The Hindu* over the phone from Nagpur. "Like him, I too was disappointed when he was not picked for the Champions Trophy. And he was feeling low."

But not for long. He had a chat with a certain Sachin Tendulkar on the phone.

"Atul Ranade, assistant coach at Vidarbha and Sachin's close friend, made it possible," recalled Ghani. "Karun was motivated by his conversation with the master. He told me he felt a lot better after that chat."

A costly 'no'

Ghani believes Vidarbha was fortunate to secure Karun's services. He had been dropped by Karnataka in 2022, and when he expressed a desire to play for Kerala, the State of his origin, its cricket administrators were not keen. That was probably the costliest 'no' after Shatrughan Sinha rejected Ramesh Sippy's offer of the role that eventually was enacted by Amitabh Bachchan in *Sholay*.

Unlike many Malayalis who grew up outside Kerala, Karun speaks fluent Malayalam. After scoring a hundred for India-A against South Africa-A in the unofficial Test at Krishnagiri in Kerala back in 2015, he told the Kerala Cricket Association's media manager that he was hoping for a few questions in Malayalam at the press conference. Incidentally, that hundred proved timely, as he was flown out as a replacement for the injured M. Vijay in India's Test squad in Sri Lanka.

Ahead of the Ranji Trophy final in Nagpur, however, Karun got plenty of opportunities to speak in Malayalam. There was a large media contingent from Kerala to cover the team's first-ever Ranji Trophy final. He spoke with a smile about the KCA's snub.

He also talked about how he battled his way back into contention for a place in the Indian team after that poignant tweet of his, 'Dear cricket, give me another chance', following his omission from the Karnataka team in 2022. He admitted it was a very low phase in his life. And he is someone who has experienced the kind of high only one other Indian Test batter has.

In 2016, against England at Chennai, he made a monumental 303 not out, in what was only his third Test innings. Only Virender Sehwag had scored a Test triple-hundred before for India, and, of course, none has since.

Karun, however, was dropped for the following Test, against Bangladesh at Hyderabad a couple of months later, because Ajinkya Rahane, whose injury had paved his way into the team in Chennai, was back. Karun made his return during the home series against Australia, but the fourth Test at Dharamsala would prove to be his last. That was in 2017. Eight years later, he could very well be batting in the middle-order at Leeds in the first Test against England next month.

He will have earned that privilege the hard way. His experience in county cricket should come in handy. He scored 202 not out against Glamorgan last season and 150 against Surrey in 2023.

"The county stint has helped me to understand my game more, the different ways of playing and that there will be times a batsman finds it tough to score runs, but it is important to hang in there and play the ball on its merit," said Karun. "In England, you realise the ball is swinging all day and you may not get to play any spinners the whole day. The experience convinced me my game is good enough to play in any conditions. I have taken that confidence to India."

His confidence got a further boost when he was made the Vidarbha captain for the Vijay Hazare Trophy. "The added responsibility brought the best of Karun," said Ghani. "This year he has been more aggressive in his batting. I said to him – 'Karun, why don't you express yourself more?'"

He certainly did. And not just with the bat.

Sending a message

When he scored that hundred in the Ranji final, he raised nine fingers to indicate it was his ninth of the season. When asked if it was only meant for the dressing room, as the national selectors were also present at the VCA Stadium, he smiled mischievously and said, "You can take it however you like". After the match, selector Subroto Banerjee shook hands with him. And Karun smiled broadly. He knew he must have impressed him.

But it hadn't been easy to catch the selectors' eyes in a country brimming over with batting talent. And he had to inch his way back from being a forgotten man of Indian cricket.

"You can imagine how difficult that phase of my life must have been," he said. "My parents and my wife were my pillars all through. And those times made me understand people. When times are good, there will be a lot of people with you."

The good times are back again for Karun. And it could be good news, too, for the most inexperienced Indian batting line-up in years.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	10,380	16
2	Carlos Alcaraz	22	8,850	20
3	Alexander Zverev	28	7,285	23
4	Taylor Fritz	27	4,675	20
5	Jack Draper	23	4,610	18
6	Novak Djokovic	38	4,230	19
7	Lorenzo Musetti	23	3,860	21
8	Casper Ruud	26	3,655	23
9	Alex de Minaur	26	3,635	23
10	Holger Rune	22	3,440	23
11	Daniil Medvedev	29	3,290	20
12	Tommy Paul	28	3,210	21
13	Ben Shelton	22	2,980	24
14	Arthur Fils	20	2,845	22
15	Andrey Rublev	27	2,820	29

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 170 ▲▼ No change

Mukund Sasikumar
Rank 438 ▲▼ No change

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	10,683	19
2	Coco Gauff	21	6,863	20
3	Jessica Pegula	31	6,243	22
4	Jasmine Paolini	29	5,865	18
5	Iga Swiatek	23	5,838	16
6	Mirra Andreeva	18	4,986	18
7	Qinwen Zheng	22	4,368	19
8	Madison Keys	30	4,184	18
9	Emma Navarro	24	3,879	24
10	Paula Badosa	27	3,684	22
11	Elena Rybakina	25	3,548	19
12	Diana Shnaider	21	3,108	27
13	Karolina Muchova	28	2,919	17
14	Elina Svitolina	30	2,845	16
15	Barbora Krejcikova	29	2,664	13

Top Indians ▶

Ankita Raina
Rank 314 ▼ 5 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 318 ▼ 2 spots

English Premier League Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Liverpool	38	25	9	4	86	41	45	84
2	Arsenal	38	20	14	4	69	34	35	74
3	Man. City	38	21	8	9	72	44	28	71
4	Chelsea	38	20	9	9	64	43	21	69
5	Newcastle	38	20	6	12	68	47	21	66
6	Aston Villa	38	19	9	10	58	51	7	66
7	N. Forest	38	19	8	11	58	46	12	65
8	Brighton	38	16	13	9	66	59	7	61
9	Bournemouth	38	15	11	12	58	46	12	56
10	Brentford	38	16	8	14	66	57	9	56
11	Fulham	38	15	9	14	54	54	0	54
12	Crystal Palace	38	13	14	11	51	51	0	53
13	Everton	38	11	15	12	42	44	-2	48
14	West Ham	38	11	10	17	46	62	-16	43
15	Man. United	38	11	9	18	44	54	-10	42
16	Wolves	38	12	6	20	54	69	-15	42
17	Tottenham	38	11	5	22	64	65	-1	38
18	Leicester	38	6	7	25	33	80	-47	25
19	Ipswich Town	38	4	10	24	36	82	-46	22
20	Southampton	38	2	6	30	26	86	-60	12

Italian Serie A Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Napoli	38	24	10	4	59	27	32	82
2	Inter Milan	38	24	9	5	79	35	44	81
3	Atalanta	38	22	8	8	78	37	41	74
4	Juventus	38	18	16	4	58	35	23	70
5	Roma	38	20	9	9	56	35	21	69
6	Fiorentina	38	19	8	11	60	41	19	65
7	Lazio	38	18	11	9	61	49	12	65
8	AC Milan	38	18	9	11	61	43	18	63
9	Bologna	38	16	14	8	57	47	10	62
10	Como	38	13	10	15	49	52	-3	49
11	Torino	38	10	14	14	39	45	-6	44
12	Udinese	38	12	8	18	41	56	-15	44
13	Genoa	38	10	13	15	37	49	-12	43
14	Verona	38	10	7	21	34	66	-32	37
15	Cagliari	38	9	9	20	40	56	-16	36
16	Parma	38	7	15	16	44	58	-14	36
17	Lecce	38	8	10	20	27	58	-31	34
18	Empoli	38	6	13	19	33	59	-26	31
19	Venezia	38	5	14	19	32	56	-24	29
20	Monza	38	3	9	26	28	69	-41	18

Spanish LaLiga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Barcelona	38	28	4	6	102	39	63	88
2	Real Madrid	38	26	6	6	78	38	40	84
3	Atletico Madrid	38	22	10	6	68	30	38	76
4	Athletic Bilbao	38	19	13	6	54	29	25	70
5	Villarreal	38	20	10	8	71	51	20	70
6	Real Betis	38	16	12	10	57	50	7	60
7	Celta Vigo	38	16	7	15	59	57	2	55
8	Rayo Vallecano	38	13	13	12	41	45	-4	52
9	Osasuna	38	12	16	10	48	52	-4	52
10	Real Mallorca	38	13	9	16	35	44	-9	48
11	Real Sociedad	38	13	7	18	35	46	-11	46
12	Valencia	38	11	13	14	44	54	-10	46
13	Getafe	38	11	9	18	34	39	-5	42
14	Espanyol	38	11	9	18	40	51	-11	42
15	Alaves	38	10	12	16	38	48	-10	42
16	Girona	38	11	8	19	44	60	-16	41
17	Sevilla	38	10	11	17	42	55	-13	41
18	Leganes	38	9	13	16	39	56	-17	40
19	Las Palmas	38	8	8	22	40	61	-21	32
20	Real Valladolid	38	4	4	30	26	90	-64	16

German Bundesliga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bayern	34	25	7	2	99	32	67	82
2	Leverkusen	34	19	12	3	72	43	29	69
3	E. Frankfurt	34	17	9	8	68	46	22	60
4	Dortmund	34	17	6	11	71	51	20	57
5	SC Freiburg	34	16	7	11	49	53	-4	55
6	Mainz	34	14	10	10	55	43	12	52
7	RB Leipzig	34	13	12	9	53	48	5	51
8	Werder	34	14	9	11	54	57	-3	51
9	Stuttgart	34	14	8	12	64	53	11	50
10	M'gladbach	34	13	6	15	55	57	-2	45
11	Wolfsburg	34	11	10	13	56	54	2	43
12	FC Augsburg	34	11	10	13	35	51	-16	43
13	Union Berlin	34	10	10	14	35	51	-16	40
14	St Pauli	34	8	8	18	28	41	-13	32
15	Hoffenheim	34	7	11	16	46	68	-22	32
16	Heidenheim	34	8	5	21	37	64	-27	29
17	Holstein Kiel	34	6	7	21	49	80	-31	25
18	Bochum	34	6	7	21	33	67	-34	25

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	888	932
2	Harry Brook	873	898
3	Kane Williamson	867	919
4	Yashasvi Jaiswal	847	854
5	Steve Smith	823	947
6	Temba Bavuma	769	769
7	Kamindu Mendis	761	779
8	Travis Head	748	884
9	Usman Khawaja	739	847
9	Rishabh Pant	739	801

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	908	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	837	902
3	Pat Cummins	824	914
4	Josh Hazlewood	818	864
5	Nathan Lyon	812	812
6	Noman Ali	806	806
7	Marco Jansen	785	803
8	Matt Henry	782	782
9	Prabath Jayasuriya	751	801
10	Ravindra Jadeja	745	899

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Babar Azam	766	898
3	Rohit Sharma	756	882
4	Heinrich Klaasen	744	760
5	Virat Kohli	736	909
6	Daryl Mitchell	720	750
7	Harry Tector	708	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Charith Asalanka	694	694
10	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Maheesh Theekshana	680	686
2	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
3	Keshav Maharaj	648	741
4	Bernard Scholtz	644	648
5	Rashid Khan	640	799
6	Mitchell Santner	637	657
7	Matt Henry	622	691
8	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733
9	Adam Zampa	614	699
10	Josh Hazlewood	603	727

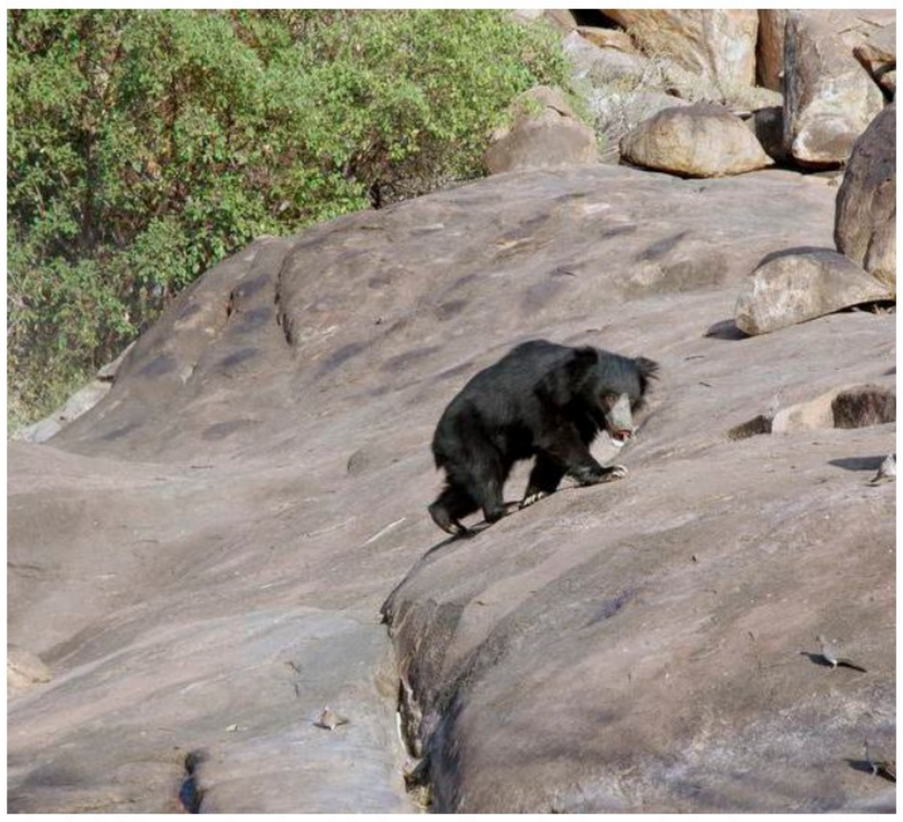
T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Travis Head	856	885
2	Abhishek Sharma	829	829
3	Philip Salt	815	881
4	Tilak Varma	804	845
5	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912
6	Jos Buttler	735	756
7	Pathum Nissanka	714	722
8	Tim Seifert	708	708
9	Babar Azam	681	900
10	Kusal Perera	676	786

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jacob Duffy	723	723
2	Akeal Hosein	707	714
3	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
4	Adil Rashid	705	747
5	Wanindu Hasaranga	700	809
6	Adam Zampa	694	746
7	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
8	Maheesh Theekshana	666	686
9	Rashid Khan	664	828
10	Arshdeep Singh	653	679

Bear journey



A female sloth bear named Bindhu, who had a GPS collar attached, became the first documented sloth bear to embark on a long-distance journey, known as a long-distance dispersal. Bindhu travelled 223 km from Karnataka to her new home in Andhra Pradesh, the Penukonda Reserve Forest. It took 12 days for Bindhu to undertake this migration and she mostly travelled at night. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Pest attack on mango leaves farmers in dire straits in State

While this was already an off-year for farmers as the yield dropped to just 8 lakh to 10 lakh tonnes as against the usual 14 lakh to 16 lakh tonnes, the fruit has now been infected by hoppers and thrips, leading to a huge decrease in quality

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Even as mangoes continue to sell at over ₹100 per kg in Bengaluru, farmers in the mandis of Kolar and Ramanagara districts are selling it at as low as ₹7-8 per kg. While this was already an off-year for mango farmers as the yield dropped to just 8 lakh to 10 lakh tonnes against the usual 14 lakh to 16 lakh tonnes, the fruits have now been infected by hoppers (jigi) and thrips leading to a huge decrease in the quality of the remaining yield.

Farmers in both these districts, which are the major mango-producing regions of Karnataka, said that hoppers – which suck the sap out of mango plants – have resulted in blackened mangoes.

"As the sap is sucked out, the fruits and the stem starts turning black. In the beginning of the season, we had sprayed pesticides to prevent disease, but when the temperature started going up, many fruits dropped and the overall quality took a hit," explained Dharanish Kumar, president, Kanakapura and Channapatna Mango Growers' Association.

He added "We are selling badami (alphonso) at ₹27 per kg and sendhoora for a mere ₹7-8 per kg at the mandis. With not enough supply to the market, retailers are selling it for higher prices." He also mentioned that mangoes are cultivated on 32,000 hectares in Ramanagara and 30,000 families are dependent on it.

Officials of the Horticulture Department said that they had taken cognisance of the situation and sent a team to Kolar for inspection. FILE PHOTO

Repeat of 2018

In Kolar district, farmers are selling totapuri and sendhoora varieties at ₹10 per kg and badami at ₹25 per kg.

"The quality (of mangoes) has taken a huge hit in the last few days. We had only seen about 20% of fruit formation this time and now even that is affected by thrips and hoppers. We have nothing left to even export this time," said Neelaturu Chinnappa Reddy, president, Kolar District Mango Growers' Association

According to farmers, they had last seen such low prices only in 2018. "Back then, we had held a lot of protests, and the government had declared a support price of ₹2,500 per tonne. This time, we requested the Horticulture Department to send a technical committee to scientifically assess the problems in the fields and they paid us a visit," Mr. Reddy said.

Taking action

The officials of Horticulture Department said that they had taken cognisance of the situation and sent a team to Kolar for inspection. "We are waiting to see what the team says, and, in the meantime, we will also be assessing the severity of the situation," said Ramesh D.S., director, Horticulture Department.

When asked about insurance, he said, "Insurance for horticulture crops is dependent on the term sheet. It basically means that there are certain parameters and if the weather conditions either cross or are extremely below those parameters, then insurance is decided based on that. Our Mango Board has already issued advisories to the farmers and are assessing these parameters."

Meanwhile, in Bengaluru, totapuri is selling at ₹35-₹40 per kg, badami at ₹110-₹125 per kg and sendhoora at ₹80-₹100 per kg in retail markets.

"At wholesale markets, we are selling mangoes for anywhere between ₹10-₹50 per kg after we grade them based on size and quality. The last few days, business has also been dull due to rain and the prices might pick up a little more once weather stabilises," said Ragunath, a wholesale mango seller at Electronics City fruit market.

Spa owner, two others arrested for assault on former employee

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A spa owner and two of her associates have been arrested for allegedly assaulting a former employee for quitting and starting a spa on his own. The arrested have been identified as Nisha, who runs the Sara Spa in Kodigehalli, and her associates Kavya and Mohammed. The victim Sanju, 40, who was earlier working at Sara Spa, had recently quit and started his own spa. According to a complaint by Sanju, Nisha barged into his spa with two of her associates on Thursday night, beat him up, ransacked his business, abducted him, and assaulted him with beer bottles in a car.

He further said that they threatened to burn down his spa if he did not wind it down himself, dropped him back at his spa, and fled.

The assault was recorded on CCTV cameras in the area, sources said. Within hours, the Amruthahalli police tracked down and arrested the trio, sources said.

Two killed in accidents

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two bikers were killed in accidents in the city on Thursday night.

According to the police, Rajveer Singh, 25, a resident of Hebbal and an employee of a private firm, had reportedly been speeding. He lost control of his bike and rammed it into a road median in Kodigehalli on Thursday around 11 p.m. He sustained severe head injuries as he was not wearing a helmet. Though he was rushed to a nearby private hospital, he was declared "brought dead", police sources said.

In the other case, Ravi, 30, was killed in an accident near Hoskote on the outskirts of the city when a car rammed his bike. Ravi fell down and sustained severe injuries and died en route to the hospital. The car driver fled from the scene and efforts are on to track him down, said the police.

ED raids exports firm for FEMA violations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) raided four premises linked to a private firm, Sri Kumaraswamy Mineral Exports Pvt. Ltd., in Bengaluru and Mangaluru on May 27, for alleged violations of Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, in the matter of various "undisclosed transactions in overseas jurisdictions."

The ED said in a statement on Friday that the premises linked to the directors of the firm, Santesh Gureddi and Jyothi Gureddi, Bhavani Prasad Tapal and Renuka Devi and Ravindranath, and Uma Alva, were also raided.

"The ED had initiated investigation based on intelligence input received from the Income Tax Department wherein it was *prima facie* revealed that part of the export proceeds of Sri Kumaraswamy Mineral Exports Pvt. Ltd. were diverted by its buyers in the bank accounts of overseas companies wherein directors of the firm were shareholders. Further, it is understood that Shantesh Gureddi had acquired immovable property in London partly out of the said proceeds," ED said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase Villa bearing No.75-A, presently bearing BBMP E Aasthi Property No.101/87/Sy.No-50/1/Site No.50/1-3 (E.P.I.D No.2650432574), consisting of Ground Floor and First Floor having total built up area of 2740 Square feet, constructed over Residential Plot bearing No.75/A, (Old Khatha No.87 & Property No. Sy No.50/1, Site No.50/1-3 earlier Khata No. 67, H.L. No. 50/1-3, Sl. No. 75/A), measuring on the East **56 feet 6 inches**, on the West **56 Feet 6 inches**, on the North **90 feet** and on the South 90 feet totally measuring **5085 square feet** in the project known as **ADARSH PALM MEADOWS**, situated at **Nellurahalli Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk** and bounded on

East by : **Property bearing Khatha No.116 and Sl No.72;**
West by : **Road;**
North by : **Property bearing Khatha No.18 and Sl No.74;**
South by : **Property of Mr.Jagannath Narendran and Mrs.Hasika Jagannath.**

From its Owner **Mrs.Hasika Jagannath daughter of Mr.Jamnadas Hansraj Asher.** Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections / claims with documentary evidence within **7 days** from the date of this publication to the undersigned.

Geetha Halliyal,
TAVISA LEGAL Advocates
42 High Street, No.775, 2nd Floor,
100 feet Road, Indiranagar,
Bangalore-560038, Ph : 9980519476
email : geethahalliyal@gmail.com

SBI Life
Apne liye. Apno ke liye.

NOTICE

SBI Life Insurance Company Ltd. (SBI Life) hereby invites offers bids for commercial premises on lease basis from the owners of the premises fulfilling following broad prospect:

1. The premises should be free from all encumbrances and charges and ready for immediate possession.
2. The premises must be Commercial Building with an arrangement of Commercial Electricity Connection and should have basic permission and amenities such as Fire NOC, Occupation Certificate, Building Insurance, adequate & uninterrupted electricity and water supply, space for signage, parking, modern Fire-fighting system, adequate number of car parking etc.
3. The premises in the vicinity of MALLESWARAM, SHESHADRIPURAM & KUMARA PARK and surrounding area is preferred.
4. The carpet area of the premises should be between 4100 Sq ft. to 4500 Sq ft.

Intending bidders should download the formats from our website: www.sbilife.co.in (https://www.sbilife.co.in/en/services/download centre- RFP forms). The completed Technical and Price Bids should be submitted in separate sealed covers to **"The Regional Director, SBI Life Insurance Company Limited, 2nd Floor, Sri Sairam Towers, No. 24, K. P. Puttanna Chetty Road, 5th Main, Chamarajpet, Bangalore, Karnataka Pin 560 018"** Tel No. 080-25944970. on or before 14-06-2025.

SBI Life reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers in full / part without assigning any reasons.

Date: 30/05/2025 Place: Bengaluru

Trade logo displayed above belongs to State Bank of India and is used by SBI Life under license. SBI Life Insurance Co. Ltd. Registered & Corporate Office: Natraj, M.V. Road & Western Express Highway Junction, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400069. IRDAI Registration No. 111. CIN: L99999MH2000PLC129113 Website: www.sbilife.co.in • Email: info@sbilife.co.in •Toll free no. 1800 267 9090 (Customer service timing: 24x7)

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Apne liye. Apno ke liye.

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3. The premises in the vicinity of RICHMOND TOWN AREA and surrounding area is preferred.
4. The carpet area of the premises should be between 1400 Sq ft. to 1550 Sq ft.

Intending bidders should download the formats from our website: www.sbilife.co.in (https://www.sbilife.co.in/en/services/download centre- RFP forms). The completed Technical and Price Bids should be submitted in separate sealed covers to **"The Regional Director, SBI Life Insurance Company Limited, 2nd Floor, Sri Sairam Towers, No. 24, K. P. Puttanna Chetty Road, 5th Main, Chamarajpet, Bangalore, Karnataka Pin 560 018"** Tel No. 080-25944970. on or before 14-06-2025.

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Trade logo displayed above belongs to State Bank of India and is used by SBI Life under license. SBI Life Insurance Co. Ltd. Registered & Corporate Office: Natraj, M.V. Road & Western Express Highway Junction, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400069. IRDAI Registration No. 111. CIN: L99999MH2000PLC129113 Website: www.sbilife.co.in • Email: info@sbilife.co.in •Toll free no. 1800 267 9090 (Customer service timing: 24x7)

Government of Jharkhand
Home, Prison and Disaster Management Department
(Disaster Management Division)
T.A. Division Building, Near Golchakar,
Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand, Pin Code-834004.

Expression of Interest (Request for Proposal)

HIRING SERVICES OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT FIRM FOR STATUTORY AUDIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR - 2010-11 TO FINANCIAL YEAR 2025-26

Disaster Management Division invites 'Request for Proposal (RFP)' from firms of chartered Accountants empanelled with Comptroller & Auditor General of India and Institute of Chartered Accountant of India and which meet all the conditions in the eligibility criteria given below for carrying out the statutory audit of the Disaster Management Division for State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) & Compilation for the financial year 2010-11 to 2025-26 as per the Terms of Reference provided in the RFP.

Eligibility Criteria :- The firm must :
(a) Be empanelled with C & AG and ICAI.
(b) Have at least 3 full time partners who are fellow members of the ICAI for a period not less than 10 years (as per certificate of ICAI) as on 01.01.2024.
(c) Have an average turnover of Rs. 50.00 lakh p.a. in the last 3 years.
(d) Have carried out at least 4 statutory Audits of corporate entities under PSU/Government.
(e) Have at least 4 audit assignments in the Government sector/PSU.
(f) Audit experience in similar work will be given preference all details must be filled in clearly in the particulars/details of the firms.

We invite offers in two bid system (Separate Technical bid and Financial bid) as detailed in the ToR. Guideline for submission of proposal may be referred to Section IV of Terms & Conditions.

Detailed RFP :- Detailed Request for proposal (RFP) comprising Background. Terms of Reference (TOR) for submitting the proposal can be taken from Disaster Management Division. In case of equality in the eligibility criteria in all respect, decision will be taken based on the firm having Headquarter in Jharkhand.

The Secretary will have the right to accept or reject any 'Expression of Interest' without assigning any reason thereof and the decision of the Govt. will be final and binding to all.

Important Dates
i. Date of pre bid meeting-**16.06.2025**
ii. Last date of submission of proposal-**23.06.2025** upto **5.00** P.M.
iii. Dated of opening of technical bid - **24.06.25- 3.00** P.M.
iv. Date of opening of financial bid of qualified firm as per eligibility criteria. Qualified technical bidders will be informed accordingly on their mail ID.
Rates are to be quoted in space provided in Financial Bid.

EOI shall be dropped in the office Tender Box. Bidders or their authorized representative may wish to be present at the time of opening of EOI as per Sl. No. (iii) & (iv) above.

All dispute will be settled within the judicature of Hon'ble Jharkhand High Court, Ranchi only.

Secretary,Home, Prison and Disaster Management Department
(Disaster Management Division)Jharkhand, Ranchi
T.A. Division Building, Near Golchakar, Dhurwa,
Ranchi, Jharkhand, Pin Code-834004.

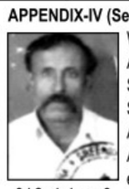
PR 353889 (Disaster Management)25-26*D

SREENIDHI SOUHARDA SAHAKARI BANK NIYAMITHA
Head Office: No.113, R.V. Road, V.V. Puram, Bengaluru – 560 004
Phone No.080-25401160/61, 9606018413, E-mail:sssbn3mrh@sreenidhibank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE - POSSESSION NOTICE
Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

APPENDIX-IV (See Rule 8(1)) r/w Sec. 13(4)(a)

Smt.Lakhsminarasamma



Sri.Govindappa.C

Sri.Ambarisha.G

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Central Act No.54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12), 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a notice dated **29.03.2025** calling upon the Borrowers **(1) Smt.Lakshminarasamma,** W/o.Govindappa.C, aged about 48 years, **(2) Sri.Govindappa.C,** S/o. Chikkaavalappa, aged about 56 years and **(3) Sri.Ambarisha.G,** S/o.Govindappa.C, aged about 28 years, all are residing at No.541, New No.5/3, 10th Cross, Kundalahalli Colony, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037, demanding to repay the amount of **Rs.55,70,349/- Rupees(Fifty Five Lakhs Seventy Thousand Three Hundred and Forty Nine)** Only together with Interest and Costs thereon, being the loan amount due by them, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers have failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property owned by **Smt.Lakshminarasamma** mortgaged to the Bank and described in Schedule herein below, together with all rights to transfer by way of Lease, assignment or sale for realising the above mentioned amount (Secured Asset), in exercise of the powers conferred on them under Section 13(4)(a) of the said Act read with Rule-8 of the said Rules on this **30th day of May 2025.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of **M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha for a sum of Rs.55,83,475/- Rupees (Fifty Five Lakhs Eighty Three Thousand Four Hundred and Seventy Five) only on 30/05/2025** together with interest and costs thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No.5/3, formed out of Sy.No.126, of Kundalahalli Colony Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West: 20 Feet, and North to South:30 Feet, in all measuring 600 Sq.ft., along with building and bounded on the : East By : Puttappa's House, West by : Road, North by : Korisi Ramanana's House, South by : Road.

Date : 30.05.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owners **SMT.PADMA P PINGALAY** W/o late Prabhakar R Pingalay and her children **SMT.PRATHIMA P PINGALE** and **SMT.ROOPA PINGALAY,** residing at: No.117/5-C, Nagaraja Layout, Gavipuram Extension, Bull Temple Road, Bengaluru – 560019.

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.117/5-C (old No.99), PID No.49-6-117/5-C, measuring East to West 39ft and North to South 48ft, situated at Nagaraja Layout, off Bull Temple Road, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Private property
West by : Property bearing No.117/5-B
North by : Mahantha layout
South by : Road

Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**, Advocate,
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES,
No.60, 2nd Floor, Old Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road,
Bangalore-560001. Ph: 080-25310066
E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **18.06.2025 (10.00 AM to 10.30 AM),** for recovery of **Rs. 11,35,05,475.39** as on **29.05.2025** with further interest and cost thereon due to the ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from **(1) M/s. SRS Transport,** No. 53, 1st Main, Lakshmipuram, Ulsoor, Bengaluru-560008. **(2) Sri Thulasiram V** S/o Vishwanath, No.53, 1st Main Road, Behind C M H Road, Halasuru, Bengaluru-560008. **(3) Smt. Bhuvaneshwari T** W/o Thulasiram V, No. 53, 1st Main Road, Behind C M H Road, Halasuru, Bengaluru-560008. **(4) M/s. SRS Logistics & Warehousing,** No. 3208, 6th C Main Road, 13th Cross, HAL II stage, Indira Nagar, Bengaluru-560038. **Also at: M/s SRS Logistics & Warehousing,** No.B-45, 3rd Main, 1st Cross, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 1st Phase, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **17.06.2025 - 5.00pm**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Lot No	Description of the immovable/movable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
1	All that piece and parcel of: **Property No 1:** Bearing municipal No 115, 114,113,112,111 &110(old no: 3A,4,5,6,7,8) PID No: 75-2-110, 75-2-111, 75-2-112, 75-2-113,75-2-114, 75-2-115 Cambridge road BBMP Jogupalya ward no 75, Halasuru Bangalore 560008 each measuring 200sq ft and in all measuring 1200 sqft and bounded on the East by : Jogupalya main road, West by : property of Sarvamangala, North by : property belonging to Sri Sathisheshwar/HS Rajeshwari/RoopaSiddaraju and South by : G 1st street. **Property No.2:** Bearing municipal new No.2 (old No: 33-40) PID:75-44-2 Cambridge road BBMP Jogupalya ward no 75 Halasuru, Bangalore 560008 in all measuring 1723 sqft and bounded East by : property belonging to Indumathi, West by : Cambridge road north by SV Road/Madras road and South by : property belonging to Smt. Sarvamangala. **Property No.3:** Bearing municipal new no 3(old No 26/32) PID no: 75-44-3 Cambridge road BBMP Jogupalya ward No.75 Halasuru, Bangalore 560008 and Measuring 4617 sqft.. Bounded on East by : property belonging to Smt Indumathi Shivaprasad, West by : Cambridge Road, North by : property belonging to Sathisheshwar/HS Rajeshwari/Roopa Siddaraju and South by : Kempamma temple. Total Extant of the plot 7540 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 12.974944, Longitude- 77.625500**	₹. 855.04	₹.85.50	1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066, 6381952519, 99663971156, 9414400177 and 9039609346 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 30.05.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

AP

Arsenal's comeback queens: the European Renee-ssance of a pioneering club

As the most successful — and arguably most influential — club in English women's football, the Gunners don't often experience rocky seasons. Yet, that was the state of affairs in 2024-25 until Renee Slegers took over as manager. What followed — a historic second Champions League triumph after being written off — was straight out of a fairytale

Associated Press
Agence France-Presse

In the summer of 2024, the Arsenal women's team lost its record goal-scorer, Vivianne Miedema, on a free transfer to Manchester City. The departure of the club's talismanic forward, widely considered one of the world's greatest strikers, was followed five months later by the resignation of manager Jonas Eidevall after a string of poor results.

Unfamiliar territory

For Arsenal, statistically the most successful club in English women's football and among the most decorated in the world game, this was unfamiliar territory. The Gunners, after all, have won the most doubles and trebles in English history, completed a record seven unbeaten league seasons, and assembled a staggering, unrivalled cabinet of trophies. The club has also played a significant, often pioneering, role in the rise of women's football in England.

So, the situation the team found itself in last October demanded an inspired response. Renee Slegers, Eidevall's assistant, was promoted as manager on an interim basis – not a particularly imaginative decision on the face of it, but the club knew what it was doing. This wasn't a stopgap arrangement but an educated punt, and she was appointed permanently in January.

> There are signs that when you are a winning team, you struggle together, you suffer together, you find ways to win. I think there's even more in this team, that's the scary part of it
>
> **RENEE SLEGERS**
> Arsenal manager

The former Dutch midfielder, whose playing career was cut short by injury, had a reputation for being an intelligent student of the game. She, moreover, had a longstanding bond with Arsenal, having joined its academy as a 17-year-old in 2006. She had made a senior appearance by the time the club became the first English side to win the women's Champions League in 2007.

Eighteen years later, Slegers steered the team through a spectacular European campaign, winning Arsenal's second Champions League title. It remains the only English team to claim the prestigious continental trophy. The side built its confidence from come-from-behind wins over Real Madrid and eight-time champion Lyon in the knockout rounds before laying low the almighty Barcelona with a tactical masterclass in the final.

Stina Blackstenius' 75th-minute goal, after coming on as a substitute, decided the title clash, producing an incredible finish to a rocky season for the Gunners. Arsenal was better organised, calmer, and executed a meticulously detailed gameplan to perfection against Barcelona, which was in its sixth final in seven years with a team widely regarded as the best in the world, featuring Ballon d'Or winners and influential midfielders Alexia Putellas and Aitana Bonmati.

Slegers delivered an expert coaching performance, getting her substitutions right and devising a way to stop the highest scoring team in the tournament. "What we did so well was using all possible tools to speed the game up, to disrupt it, but to stay true to who we are. This was key to why we won," Slegers said. "Barcelona are so good, but we tried to exploit weaknesses where we could. We said beforehand that the midfield of Barcelona was the engine, they are the conductors. So we wanted to stop them."

Leah Williamson excelled at the back and veteran Kim Little and former Barca midfielder Mariona Caldentey in particular helped shut down the Catalans' star-studded engine room

Slegers explained that Arsenal's other players chipped in to flood the midfield and help their own central trio. She hailed her squad for pulling off everything they had planned. "[I'm] super proud, because you can have all these ideas in your head, show videos, use your tactics board, do it in training, but when the moment is actually there against an opponent that is so good, to then execute in the Champions League final, it says so much about the players," she added.

> We're very aware of what's come before us... we had lunch with the 2007 winners earlier in the week. To understand how much it still means to them is really special for us current players
>
> **ALESSIA RUSSO**
> Arsenal and England striker

Captain Little said the team's composure on the big stage was a consequence of focusing on the task and not the occasion. The team wanted to play without fear.

Composure and courage

"It was fairly calm [in the dressing room] and that is one of the key things in these big games," explained Little, who first joined the club a year after the 2007 triumph. "[Sleger's team-talks were] task-focused... small details on how we can stop them and some details around set pieces. I think that showed in our performance, how we approached the game was very controlled, with little pointers of the belief that we have and the courage we wanted to show."

Defender Katie McCabe said it was all about the work rate the entire side put in. That started up front, where England striker Alessia Russo was a rock, using her size to win balls and keep the attack going. Russo had jumped ship from Manchester United to join the Arsenal project in 2023 on a free transfer, just months after the Red Devils turned down a then women's world record £500,000 bid by the Gunners.

Russo struggled to match the hype of her arrival during a difficult first season, but Slegers has sparked a transformation in the striker's fortunes – Russo was recently named as the football writers' women's player of the year. "Any player who plays for Arsenal understands that it's a winning club, so ambitious, and wants to be at the top," she said.

The squad had lunch in the week leading up to the final with the team that won the 2007 trophy, and Russo said it was a "special" experience. "We're very aware of what's come before us as well... we had lunch with some of the 2007 winners earlier in the week and to understand how much it still means to them is really special for us current players," she said.

In addition to the lunch, Slegers picked the brains of some important figures from that team, including coach Vik Akers and his assistant Emma Hayes, now manager of the United States' women's team. "I was at the club in 2007 so I have a little bit of an idea of where the club comes from, and I had lunch with Vic, and it was fantastic to see him bring the perspective. There's so many people who have been investing for such a long time, I'm just a very small part of it..."

When magic delivers

England captain Williamson, a lifelong Gunners fan who joined the London club at the age of eight and was a mascot when Arsenal triumphed in 2007, said the win felt like "magic". Standing in front of some 10,000 fans outside the club's Emirates Stadium during the trophy celebration, she said, "I've been saying the whole time, 'Do you believe in magic?' I knew it was going to happen against Lyon, I knew it was going to happen in the final. And magic delivered."

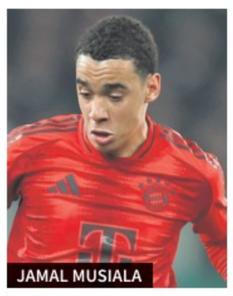
Arsenal is determined to use the triumph as a springboard for further success. Slegers said her players are hungry for more and the future could be "scary" – in a good way.

"There are signs that when you are a winning team, you struggle together, you suffer together, you find ways to win," Slegers said. "I think there's even more in this team, that's the scary part of it, we achieved something enormous but I think there's still more to give."

GAME THEORY

The Bundesliga's best dribblers and ball carriers

This week, we take a look at the most prolific footballers in Germany's top flight in terms of dribbling and carrying (a progressive carry is counted when the ball is moved towards the opponent's goal line at least 10 yards from its furthest point in the last six passes or when it is moved into the penalty area)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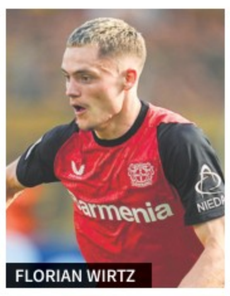
FLORIAN WIRTZ

JAMIE GITTENS

MICHAEL OLISE

MOST DRIBBLES PER GAME

Player	Club	Games	Dribbles/game
Jamal Musiala	Bayern	25	2.9
Florian Wirtz	Leverkusen	31	2.6
Jamie Gittens	Dortmund	32	2.4
Michael Olise	Bayern	34	2.1
Ritsu Doan	Freiburg	34	1.6
Alphonso Davies	Bayern	19	1.6
Karim Adeyemi	Dortmund	25	1.6
Hugo Ekitike	E. Frankfurt	33	1.6
Antonio Nusa	Leipzig	25	1.6
Jamie Leweling	Stuttgart	27	1.5
Alexis Claude-Maurice	Augsburg	28	1.5
Oladapo Afolayan	St. Pauli	32	1.5
Leo Scienza	Heidenheim	25	1.5
Romano Schmid	Werder	32	1.4
Kingsley Coman	Bayern	28	1.4

MOST PROGRESSIVE CARRIES

Player	Club	Carries
Florian Wirtz	Leverkusen	131
Michael Olise	Bayern	119
Chris Fuhrich	Stuttgart	114
Jamie Gittens	Dortmund	113
Romano Schmid	Werder	107
Benedict Hollerbach	Union Berlin	103
Omar Traore	Heidenheim	103
Jeremie Frimpong	Leverkusen	100
Hugo Ekitike	E. Frankfurt	93
Konrad Laimer	Bayern	87

MOST CARRIES INTO PENALTY AREA

Player	Club	Carries into PA
Jamie Gittens	Dortmund	63
Chris Fuhrich	Stuttgart	54
Florian Wirtz	Leverkusen	53
Benedict Hollerbach	Union Berlin	52
Hugo Ekitike	E. Frankfurt	52
Michael Olise	Bayern	46
Omar Marmoush	E. Frankfurt	45
Karim Adeyemi	Dortmund	41
Leroy Sane	Bayern	38
Lois Openda	Leipzig	37

SOURCE: WHOSCORED.COM, FBREF.COM

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

Ballin' for a cause

In this photograph, a group of kids watch a freestyle street basketball exhibition from a balcony in Caracas, Venezuela, as a part of the 'Court Kingz: World Tour'.

Court Kingz was founded in 2007 with a vision of helping local communities, especially 'at risk youth', around the world with the aid of sport.

The idea, according to the organisation, is to target forgotten basketball courts in America and remote locations across the globe to present programmes that focus on dealing with bullying and the prevention of substance abuse.

The medium for this message is street basketball or streetball, a variation of the game typically played on outdoor courts with a looser, less formal structure.

The spontaneous nature of streetball promotes the expression of individual skills. The emphasis is on players having fun and trying things without worrying about making mistakes. It's also spectacular to watch — with high-fliers who specialise in acrobatic dunks and trick dribblers who make opponents look silly, it can both draw an audience and encourage participation.

Chaos at Cantonment station as main entrance shut for work

The only access point is a narrow, poorly marked passage located less than 100 metres to the left of the closed gate

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The main entrance has been cordoned off for a ₹480 crore modernisation project at Bangalore Cantonment station. K. MURALI KUMAR

Passengers at Bangalore Cantonment Railway Station are facing difficulties owing to prolonged construction work at the main entrance on Station Road. Confusion over entry points, misleading signboards, and a lack of support from railway officials have contributed to the woes of daily commuters and long-distance travellers.

With the main entrance cordoned off for a ₹480 crore modernisation project, the only access point is a narrow, poorly marked passage located less than 100 metres to the left of the closed gate. When *The Hindu* visited the spot, small printouts pasted along the road were the only indicators of the change in the entrance.

"I was dropped off near the main entrance and stood there for 10 minutes trying to figure out how to enter the railway station," said Sneha Rao, a software engineer. "An auto driver offered to take me around for ₹150, claiming that the platform was far. But once I paid and got in, he simply turned the corner and pointed to a small lane," she added.

Elderly suffer

Railway officials have stated that passengers heading to board the Vande Bharat Express and other trains departing from Platforms 1A to 1E should use Terminal 1, and walk via Platform 1. Those boarding trains from other platforms are advised to use Terminal 2 on the Miller's Road side.

However, signage remains unclear, and without staff to guide passengers, confusion prevails. The situation is worse for elderly passengers, who complain of inadequate waiting facilities.

"I came with my husband who recently had surgery. We struggled to find a bench to sit on while waiting for our train. With all the dust and noise from the construction, it's impossible to rest," said 68-year-old Radha Seshadri, who was travelling to Coimbatore.

To make matters worse, passengers complain that auto and cab drivers are taking advantage of the chaos. Commuters have complained of being misled, overcharged, or dropped off far from the correct entrances. On the Vasanthnagar side, auto drivers reportedly exploit the situation by falsely claiming that the roads are blocked or in poor condition.

"They charged me ₹200 to come from Shivajinagar, saying the roads near the station were dug up. But after dropping me off near Miller's Road, the driver refused to take me closer, citing traffic. I had to walk with two suitcases for over 10 minutes," said Karthik M., a student heading to Madurai.

Passengers have also raised concerns about poor sanitation. Platform 2, which handles several passenger trains, reportedly gets flooded during rains.

"There's no proper drainage near Platform 2. Every time it rains, the area turns into a swamp. The stench is unbearable, and we have to tiptoe around puddles with our luggage," said Rekha Balraj, a frequent traveller.

Use FoB says officials

Though SWR advises passengers to use the foot overbridge (FOB) to access the platforms or terminals, many say the situation on the ground is far from manageable.

An SWR official said, "Passengers who happen to enter through the wrong terminal can still access their designated platforms by using the FOB that connects both sides of the station. For added convenience, the front entrance on Cantonment Road (Platform 1 side) houses a Passenger Reservation Counter along with four unreserved ticket counters. On the other hand, the back entrance on Miller's Road (Platform 2 side) provides two Unreserved Ticketing System counters, and one Automatic Ticket Vending Machine (ATVM) to cater to ticketing needs."

Bengaluru witnesses 11.2% YoY growth in premium residential real estate market, finds report

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Premium residential category emerged as the growth driver of Bengaluru's residential real estate sector in 2024, says a report by real estate consultancy NKlusive.

According to the report, while the affordable segment (<₹7,000 per square foot (psf)) showed a modest fall in sales and signs of saturation, the premium category (₹7,000 to 15,000 psf) accounted for more than 52.8% of the total market supply in 2024. Premium home launches increased by 16.3% year-on-year to 94,126 units, with strong end-user demand maintaining absorption at 53%.

Rising aspirations

"The findings point to a thriving market environment characterised by robust premium sector performance, rising aspirational demand, and a shift in buyer preferences toward lifestyle-driven housing," said a statement from the company.

The report pointed out that the luxury and uber luxury sectors continued to see high-price increases, backed by increased affluence and the appeal of lifestyle-driven homes.

"These categories have also seen a move toward compact luxury formats, particularly in East and Central Bengaluru, making high-end living more accessible," it said.

Demand for 3 BHK

As per the report, the premium segment recorded a 4% YoY price appreciation, with Weighted Average Price rising from ₹13,284 to ₹14,000 per sq. ft. Increased preference for 3 and 3.5 BHK configurations, driven by work-from-home lifestyles and nuclear family needs was observed during the year.

The report also suggested balanced demand-supply dynamics, particularly in micro-markets like Whitefield and North Bengaluru.

"Overall, a more varied, stable, and opportunity-rich housing ecosystem is being fostered by changing buyer tastes, steady infrastructure development, and growing disposable incomes. The year 2024 has confirmed Bengaluru's standing as one of India's most vibrant and resilient residential markets, which is good news for developers, investors, and homeowners," it said.

City court gives interim stay on indoor stadium work

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A local city court, hearing a petition by the Indiranagar Residents' Welfare Association, has given an interim stay on the work on the indoor basketball stadium in Indiranagar till the next date of hearing scheduled on June 10. Following this, the contractor has been asked to stop work, sources said.

The local RWA has been opposing building a basketball stadium at the playground, alleging this would hamper access to children from poor backgrounds. However, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has been refuting these allegations and said that the stadium would remain accessible to the public and it was not being handed over to any private firm.

However, Indiranagar I Stage League RWA had approached the court seeking an stay order on the works.

The court in its order on Thursday issued notice to the BBMP.

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
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Sri D.K.Shivakumar
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Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, MAY. 31		
RISE	05:53	SET 18:42
RISE	09:54	SET 23:02
SUNDAY, JUN. 01		
RISE	05:53	SET 18:43
RISE	10:50	SET 23:46
MONDAY, JUN. 02		
RISE	05:53	SET 18:43
RISE	11:42	SET 00:00

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	28	20
Bengaluru	26	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant

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THE HINDU
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SBI, KDEM sign MoU to boost GCC ecosystem

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) to support the growth of global capability centres (GCCs) in Karnataka.

The MoU was formalised at the 'GCC Leaders Connect' event on May 28 in Bengaluru by Joohi Smita Sinha, chief general manager, SBI Bengaluru Circle, and Sanjeev Gupta, CEO, KDEM, in the presence of B.V. Naidu, chairman, KDEM.

SBI announced the launch of India's first "Exclusive GCC Centre" in Bengaluru, aimed at delivering tailored banking solutions.

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P.G./M.TECH. ADMISSION NOTIFICATION 2025-26

PROGRAMS		MODE OF ADMISSION	LAST DATE TO APPLY
MPA (Dance), MPA (Music), MFA / MVA Painting/ Printmaking/ Sculpture/ Art History & Visual Studies, MBA Healthcare & Hospital Mgt./ Business Analytics, MPA Theatre Arts and MSc Neural and Cognitive Science:		CUET (PG) 2025 + Interview Component	09-06-2025
All PG programs excluding programs mentioned above		CUET (PG) 2025	
M.Tech Integrated Circuit Technology (ICT) and M.Tech Microelectronics & VLSI Design (MVLSI)		Based on GATE score	30-06-2025
M.Tech Computer Science, M.Tech. Artificial Intelligence and M.Tech Bioinformatics		Centralized Counselling on CCMT 2025	As per CCMT Schedule
M.Sc Biotechnology	(Schedule will be released after declaration of the respective qualifying examination)	GAT-B 2025	
M.C.A.		NIMCET 2025	

For further details including courses offered, eligibility criteria, prescribed fee, reservation policy and the Prospectus 2025-26 please visit the University website: https://acad.uohyd.ac.in or http://www.uohyd.ac.in.

Place: Hyderabad
Date: 28.05.2025
Thukaram Porika
Controller of Examinations

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Guest faculty of degree colleges to get ₹5L gratuity

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has ordered providing ₹5 lakh as gratuity (a lump sum amount) to guest faculty members who are 60, in colleges under the Collegiate Education and the Technical Education departments.

Retrospective effect

This gratuity scheme will come into effect retrospectively from January 1, 2024, and will be applicable to all guest lecturers who have retired or passed away after serving in the last one year.

Guest lecturers who are 60 after serving for at least one year in the previous five years will also be covered by this scheme. The government has reserved a total of ₹44.15 crore for this scheme.

Delay in submitting seat matrix of professional courses to KEA may affect counselling process

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Four days after the deadline to submit the seat matrix for various professional courses ended, no department, including the Higher Education Department, has submitted it to the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA).

The seat matrix of professional courses, including engineering and others, is necessary for both the KEA and students at this stage after the Common Entrance Test (CET) results.

However, owing to the delay in submitting the seat matrix, there is a possibility that the counselling process will also be delayed this time.

"We need at least one week to upload the seat matrix after receiving the same from various departments. Unless we receive the seat matrix we cannot proceed further," said H. Prasanna, executive director of KEA.

A file photo of students and parents at a CET counselling session in Bengaluru.

As per information from the KEA, the authorities have personally met officials of the Higher Education and the Medical Education departments requesting for seat matrix. "Despite repeated requests there is no response from the departments," an official of the KEA said.

For engineering courses, the Higher Education Department has to get the seat matrix from respective colleges and submit it to the KEA. For medical, dental and nursing it is the responsibility of the Medical Education Department.

Higher Education Department officials said they are compiling the data and submitting the same to the KEA soon. However, the medical, dental and nursing seat matrix will be delayed because the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) was under a dilemma following the directions from the Governor not to involve some of the senate members in any committees, including college inspection.

VTU announces results of engineering exams in an hour

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) Belagavi has announced the results of the final semester engineering examinations in a record time of one hour on Friday.

The practical examinations for final-year courses were concluded around 5.30 p.m. and the results were announced by 6.30 p.m. on the same day. The results were sent to students via SMS.

Sharing the details with *The Hindu*, S. Vidyashankar, Vice-Chancellor of VTU, said: "The theory exams were concluded on May 26 and the practicals commenced on May 27. As soon as the exams were completed, we resumed the evaluation of the theory exam papers and kept the marks ready on the portal. On Friday, when the practical exams got over around 5.30 p.m., the marks were entered on the same portal and the results were declared."

Earlier, students used to blame VTU for being irregular in the announcement of results. But for the last three years, the announcement of results has been streamlined.

"It was my target to announce results on May 30 every year and maintained it for the last three years. The first two years, we were able to declare results within two to three hours. This time, we have created a record by announcing it in an hour," explained the Vice-Chancellor.

There were over 50,000 students in the final year and they were all admitted during the 2020-21 academic year.

They will receive their degrees in the convocation on July 4.

PGCET, DCET today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) will conduct exams on Saturday across 113 centres in the State for admissions into MTech and DCET, as well as for selection into IAS and KAS coaching programmes.

Candidates will undergo strict verification processes during these exams, including facial recognition technology to confirm identities. There will be no scope for impersonation. According to KEA executive director H. Prasanna, a total of 52,352 candidates are appearing for these exams.

DCET, at 46 centres across the State, facilitates direct entry for diploma holders into the third semester or second year of engineering programmes. A total of 21,201 candidates have registered. PGCET is being held at 13 centres with 3,756 candidates appearing for it.

Scientifically assess crop cultivation and yield: HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Taking note of the fact that the traditional harvest seasons have changed owing to climatic variations, the High Court of Karnataka has directed the State government to conduct a scientific study in every district to assess the nature of crops cultivated and estimated quantity of foodgrains likely to be brought by farmers to procurement centres, prior to determining the number and location of such centres.

Petition by farmers

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria (as he then was) and Justice K.V. Aravind issued the directions while disposing of a PIL petition filed by Raitha Sena Karnataka of Navalgund taluk in Dharwad district.

Though the Bench did not accept the petitioner's request for keeping open the procurement centres on a permanent basis on all the 365 days of the year, it found it necessary to direct the government to open additional centres and beyond the traditional harvest seasons as both the Centre and State government had admitted that there has been a considerable change in traditional harvest seasons due to geographical and climatic changes.

If the procurement centres are found to be insufficient when procurement of agricultural produce at Minimum Support Price (MSP) commences, the Bench said, the Deputy Commissioner of the district concerned should ensure that adequate additional centres are established and made operational within the procurement period to meet the demand.

The number of required procurement centres has to be determined by the district MSP task force, chaired by the Deputy Commissioner of the respective district, the Bench said. In view of the fact that crop harvesting now extends beyond the traditional harvesting seasons, and in order to ensure that farmers are adequately remunerated through the MSP mechanism and are not compelled to resort to distress sale through middlemen, the State government should establish at least one procurement centre in each taluk for a period of two months beyond the procurement period fixed by the Government of India, the Bench said.

However, the Bench made it clear that depending on the geographical conditions and the quantity of foodgrains produced in a particular region, the State government will have the discretion to keep procurement centres open beyond the period prescribed in this order, as may be necessary to ensure that the objectives of the MSP scheme are effectively achieved.

Karnataka on its way to emerge as a leading MRO hub in Asia: M.B. Patil

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With IndiGo's announcement of setting up a ₹1,100-crore maintenance, repair, and operations (MRO) facility at Kempegowda International Airport, following similar commitments from Air India, Tata Advanced Systems Ltd., and HAL, the State will emerge as a preferred destination for aviation innovation, manufacturing, and maintenance in Asia, M.B. Patil, Minister for Large and Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development, has said.

This milestone initiative highlighted Karnataka's emergence as a regional leader in aviation infrastructure in Asia and reaffirmed the State's commitment to enabling industrial growth and high-skilled job creation across various functions of MRO, said the Minister.

The MRO facility that is coming up on a patch of 31 acres of land would feature four hangars capable of servicing four wide-body or eight narrow-body aircraft; one paint hangar accommodating one wide-body or two narrow-body aircraft, support for IndiGo's expanding fleet, including A320/A321XLR aircraft and incoming wide-body models such as the A350 series, and capability to service codeshare partners' aircraft.

A file photo of the Kempegowda International Airport.

This project is expected to generate over 750 direct high-skill jobs across engineering, logistics, warehousing, and support services. It will also enhance KIA's capacity to handle an estimated 1,300 aircraft by FY31, scaling to approximately 2,100 aircraft by FY37/38.

The MRO facility would attract leading global OEMs and Tier-1 suppliers, creating a multiplier effect that boosts ancillary industries, vendor ecosystems, and skill development across the region, Mr. Patil anticipated.

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BGRR/Online Auction/2025-26 — PUBLIC NOTICE GOLD AUCTION — 30/05/2025

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and the account holders in particular that e-auction of the pledged gold ornaments in the below mentioned account/s will be conducted by Federal Bank Ltd, on 17-06-2025 through online portal, https://gold.samil.in Interested buyers may log on to the auction portal or contact the Bank at contact@federalbank.co.in for further information. In case e-auction is not materialised for any reason on the date mentioned above, with respect any or all items of the pledged ornaments, Bank shall be conducting private sale of the items on any subsequent date/s without further notice.

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Br. Bangalore/HSR Layout : No.19, 15th Cross, 15th Main, Sector IV, H S R Layout, Bangalore- 560 102:- 17696800082337,17696800083210,17696800084234,17696800085629,17696800087104,17696800087229,17696800088888,17696800090272,17696800098010.
Br. Bangalore/Indiranagar: 315/1, 100 Feet Road, Opp Post Office, Indiranagar, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560 038 :- 15356800010281.
Br. Bangalore/Jalahalli: 17/1, Savithri, S M Road, Jalahalli West, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560 015 :- 15826100644179,15826800059256,15826800060551,15826800061369,15826800061534.
Br. Mysore/jayalakshmipuram: No.D3, Leo Madhurya, Adi Pampa Road, Vanivilas Mohalla Post, Mysore, Karnataka-570 002 :- 16896800027180,16896800031323,16896800031422,16896800032396,16896800032453,16896800032685,16896800033089,16896800033337,16896800035613.
Br. Bangalore/Jayanagar: K M Plaza, Kanakapura Main Road, 30th Cross, 7th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore- 560 082 :- 13876800006338.
Br. Bangalore/J P Nagar : No.13, 15th Cross, 100ft Ring Road, 6th Phase, J P Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560078, Ph. 080 26549292 :- 18276200016984,18276800104214,18276800122695,18276800122810,18276800123495,18276800123578,18276800124535,18276800126415,18276800127074,18276800127371,18276800127702,18276800127850,18276800129179,18276800133841,18276800145829.
Br. Bangalore/Kengeri: Building No 737, Kommaghatta Main Road, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560 060 :- 19646800004169.
Br. Bangalore/kodathi gate: St. Patrick Academy Campus, Sarjapur Road, Carmelaram P O, Bangalore- 560 035 :- 21716800002327.
Br. Bangalore/Krishnarajapuram: VSR Complex, Old Madras Road, Krishnarajapuram, Bangalore, Karnataka-560 036 Ph. 080-25619070 :- 15616800022549,15616800023133. **Br. Mysore: The Variety Mansion, Bangalore Nilgiri Road, Lashkar Mohalia, Lashkar Mohalla, Mysore- 570 001. Ph no. 08212520055 :-** 12816800022811,12816800023710.
Br. Bangalore/Rajajinagar : No. 60/60, Raj Chambers, Dr. Rajkumar Road, 2nd Block, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore Urban, Karnataka-560010:- 13346800065775,13346800075097,13346800075998,13346800076277,13346800076665,13346800081186.
Br. Bangalore/R T Nagar: No.20, 1st Main Road, 108 'B' Bus Station, Ganga Nagar, R T Nagar P O, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560 032:- 14726800056354,14726800056701,14726800056909,14726800058533,14726800059051,14726800065587,14726800065942,14726800066296,14726800066304,14726800066635,14726800066643,14726800066767.
Br. Bangalore/Taverekere: No.104/1, Ground Floor, Chocolate Factory Road, 1st Main, Taverekere, Bangalore-560 029:- 16596800003682.
Br. Bangalore/Thirupalya: Near Electronic City, Hebgodi Post, Tirupalya, Bangalore Urban- 560 099 :- 21126800007815,21126800007849.
Br. Bangalore/Vidyaranyapura: Ground Floor, No. 1123, Khata No. 1066/2744/1123, 6th Block, HMT Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560 097 Ph: 9544597221 :- 23966800002672.
Br. Bangalore/Vijayanagar: Ground Floor of TRS Arcade, #3, 1st main road, Income Tax Layout, opposite to AM Hospital, Chandra Layout, Bangalore Urban, Karnataka- 560 0400 :- 16436100360963,16436100361425,16436100361649,16436800088872,16436800101808,16436800101907,16436800102111,16436800104679,16436800107367,16436800117580,16436800117952.
Br. Bangalore/Visweswaraya layout: Site No. 2, 4th Block, Visweswaraya layout, Manganahalli, Ullal Upanagara P.O., Bangalore- 560 110 :- 21676800010979,21676800011597,21676800012108,21676800013551,21676800013569.
Br. Bangalore/Wipro Park Koramangala: Annapoorna Complex, Opp. Wipro Park, No 6,7th Main, 80 Feet Road, 3rd Block ,Koramangala PO, Bangalore Urban, Karnataka- 560 034 :- 21996100038433,21996800027652,21996800027694.

Bangalore 30-05-2025 — Senior Vice President & Zonal Head

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PERSONAL — CHANGE OF NAME

I, SOLADHARA PAYALBEN DILIPBHAI, W/o. Dilipbhai, R/at # 11, NRI Layout, Bangalore 43 have changed my name from BHALANI PAYAL PARSOTAM, BHALANI PAYAL PARSOTAMBHAI to SOLADHARA PAYALBEN DILIPBHAI for all my future purposes by affidavit 29–05–2025 sworn before notary Y.R. Chandrashekar.

I, Hitherto Known as Shijy Moncy Varghese W/O Stephen Samson & D/O Moncy Varghese Residing At C/O Stephen Samson, 306, Capital Green Times, Ashirwad Colony, Horamavu, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560043, Have Changed My Name and Shall Hereafter Be Known as Shijy Varghese for All Future Purpose .

I, RAIKA Imtiyaz, R/at No. 12/1, Off Nandidurga Road, Opp More Super Market, Jayamahal, Bangalore-560046 have changed my name to Raika Imtiyaz Shah vide affidavit dated 29-05-2025 sworn before Notary Sivakumara. M.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHABBIR SAIFUDDIN NANDURBARWALA, S/o Saifuddin Nandurbarwala, age 70 years, R/at No. 16, Flat No. D4, Kazikhan Residency, 18th Cross, 20th Main, JP Nagar 5th Phase, Bangalore-560 078 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHABBIR SAIFUDDIN NANDURBARWALA to SHAIKH SHABBIR SAIFUDDIN HAMID,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SHAIKH SHABBIR SAIFUDDIN HAMID** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 28th May 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D. SRINIVASA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ALIASGAR SHABBIR NANDURBARWALA, S/o Shabbir Saifuddin Nandurbarwala, age 31 years, R/at No.16, Flat No. D4, Kazikhan Residency, 18th Cross, 20th Main, JP Nagar 5th Phase, Bangalore-560 078 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ALIASGAR SHABBIR NANDURBARWALA** to **ALIASGAR SHAIKH SHABBIR HAMID,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **ALIASGAR SHAIKH SHABBIR HAMID** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 28th May 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D. SRINIVASA** at Bangalore.

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PERSONAL — CHANGE OF NAME

I, PRATHAM Krishna Prabhu, S/o Krishna Prabhakar Prabhu, r/at Tower 3, H-402, Daffodils, Adarsh Palm Retreat, Devarabeesanahalli 560103, have changed my gender to female and name as Prisha Prabhu vide affidavit dtd 25.04.2025 sworn before Notary K.Venkateshan B'luru

I, POORNIMA residing at No. 6, 3rd Floor, 10th "A" Cross, 4th Main, Vinayaka Layout, Battarahalli, Bengaluru – 560 049 have changed my name from Poornima to Poornima Manohar Naidu vide affidavit dated 29-05-2025 before A.R. Muneer Ahmed Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru

I, AMINA Imtiaz, R/at No. 12/1, Off Nandidurga Road, Opp More Super Market, Jayamahal, Bangalore-560046 have changed my name to Aamina Imtiyaz Shah vide affidavit dated 29-05-2025 sworn before Notary Sivakumara. M.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, JAMILA HUSAMUDDIN RANAPURWALA, W/o Husamuddin Najmuddin Ranapurwala, age 35 years, R/at Flat No. B 02, 1st Floor, Stellar Pearl Apartment, 5th Cross, Vinayak Nagar, J P Nagar, Bangalore-560 078 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **JAMILA HUSAMUDDIN RANAPURWALA** to **JAMILA HUSAMUDDIN HAMID,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **JAMILA HUSAMUDDIN HAMID** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 28th May 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D. SRINIVASA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Smt. PRIYA RAJESH, W/o Sri Rajesh G.N, age 47 years, R/at A 2, Prestige Dvilla Apartments, Edward Road, Vasanthnagar, Bangalore-560 052 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MANGALA PRIYA** to **PRIYA RAJESH,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **PRIYA RAJESH** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 28th May 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **A.R. MUNEER AHMED** at Bangalore.

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Reg. Office: 30/1, 1st and 2nd Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Millers Tank Bund Area, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru- 560051. Email-Id: dgm3bswml@gmail.com

No.DGM-2/BSWML/TEND/08/2025-26 Date: 30.05.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT) (Through GOK KPPP only)

1. The waste processing plants established by BBMP are to be operated and maintained to process wet waste with approved technology to generate compost as per SOP.
2. In view of this, tenders are invited on behalf of Managing Director, BSWML for the following works.
3. The Tender documents can be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** on payment of prescribed fee noted against each item of work (non-refundable) in the form of e-Payment through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. The Bidder shall submit the bid through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.

Sl No.	Name of the Work	Estimated amount Rs.in lakhs	EMD (in Rupees)	Stipulated Period of Service Contract
1	Operation and Maintenance of 150 TPD wet waste processing plant located at Lingadheeranahalli	992.46	Rs.1,00,000/- through e-payment under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs.13,88,700/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank	24 Months
2	Operation and Maintenance of 150 TPD wet waste processing plant located at Subbarayanapalya	992.46	Rs.1,00,000/- through e-payment under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs.13,88,700/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank	24 Months

Calendar of Events:
1. Date of Pre bid meeting: **10.06.2025 at 15:00 hours** in office of the Chief Engineer & Chief General Manager (Tech), BSWML, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560052.
2. Last date of submission of Bids in KPP Portal: **30.06.2025 before 16:00 hours.**
3. The Technical Bid opening date in KPP Portal: **01.07.2025 after 16:30 hours.**

NOTE:
1. Joint Venture is permissible upto 2 (two) entities. The validity of tender is 180 days from the date of opening of tender.
2. Aspiring Bidders/Contractors who have not registered in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal should the website **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** register before participating through the website **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)**
3. The Bidder shall be required to meet eligibility criteria as per the tender conditions vide Bid Document.
4. Before submission of online bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid.
5. All the required information required for Bids must be filled and submit online.
6. For details, registration and e-payment visit GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Helpdesk.
7. Any Addendum/Corrigendum shall be published in the KPP Portal only.

DIPR/CP/950/SSC/2025-26

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-2, BSWML.

EV charging sessions increase at public stations in Karnataka

According to data on Vahan dashboard, 19,284 new EVs registered across the State from January 2025 till date

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

In the last few months, the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) has seen an increase in electricity consumption in their public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations. While 14,648 charging sessions delivering electricity of 65,278 kWh were registered in November 2024, the number went up by more than two times in the month of April 2025, as 29,538 charging sessions were registered delivering around 1,85,051 kWh electricity.

Bescom officials attributed this rise to the increasing number of EVs and charging stations in its jurisdiction.

"The number of EVs, especially around Bengaluru, has been going up consistently over the years. We have increased the number of public charging stations to cater to this demand. We have added 140 new stations since the beginning of this year," said a senior official from Bescom.

According to the data available on Vahan dashboard, the official portal of the the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), 19,284 new EVs were registered across Karnataka from January 2025 till date.

Between 2022 and 2023, the State saw a sharp spike in the number of EV registrations with 1,52,663 new EVs registered in 2023. In 2022, 95,839 new EVs were registered.

Fact sheet

Month	Sessions
November 2024	14,648
December 2024	16,993
January 2025	16,773
February 2025	19,522
March 2025	26,656
April 2025	29,538

Source: Bescom

Year	EVs registered
2022	95,839
2023	1,52,663
2024	2,03,453
2025 (till date)	19,284

Source: Vahan dashboard

In 2024, the number of new EV registrations (battery operated vehicles and pure EV) was 2,03,453.

Increase in demand

EV sellers have seen an increase in demand in the last few years.

"Bengaluru has been one of the top three performing cities for Oben Electric, reflecting the city's growing appetite for sustainable, tech-driven mobility solutions. Over the past two years, demand for EVs here has seen a significant upswing," said Dinkar Agrawal, founder, CTO, COO at Oben Electric.

"Several factors have contributed to this growth. Karnataka's EV policies played a key role by offering demand-side incentives, supporting local manufacturing, and enabling faster infrastructure deployment. Bengaluru's early adopter mindset, environmental consciousness, and tech-forward population further accelerated this shift. The steady expansion of public and private charging networks across the city has helped ease range anxiety, making EVs a practical choice for daily commuting," he said.

EV buyers, on the other hand, say they are prompted by economic reasons.

Sriharsha. M., a resident of Jayanagar, who bought an electric two-wheeler in October 2024, said, "Switching to an EV has saved both time and money, as there are no more long waits at petrol stations. My running cost has dropped significantly. The fact that I will be contributing to a cleaner environment also made me want to buy an EV."

The latest data provided by the Central Government shows that Karnataka has the highest number of public EV charging stations (5,880) in India, out of which over 4,000 are in Bengaluru. However, with the increasing number of vehicles, motorists say that the existing infrastructure is not enough.

"Sometimes, the apps which I use show that a certain public charger is working, but when I go there, it will be out of service. I do not find charging stations nearby in all the areas. The need of the hour is an increase in the number of public chargers across Bengaluru," said Shalini. Y.P., an electric two-wheeler user from Thalaghattapura.

EV sellers opine that increasing and enhancing the infrastructure will provide more commuters with the confidence to switch to EVs.

"While Bengaluru has made commendable strides in building EV infrastructure, with over 4,400 charging stations already operational, the challenge now lies in scaling up with speed. Infrastructure needs to be not just available but ubiquitous, user-friendly, and integrated seamlessly into daily routines," said Mr. Agrawal.

Unique charging station near Devanahalli

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After a long wait for formal inauguration, Bescom's first-of-its-kind initiative – an EV charging station powered by second-life batteries – has begun operations near the Kempegowda International Airport at Devanahalli.

In February, 1,606 charging sessions were recorded at the station while in March, the number more than doubled with 3,804 charging sessions. In April, 5,069 charging sessions were recorded at the station.

This station has a rooftop solar installation, which powers the chargers during the day. The excess solar energy is stored in batteries and is used to power the chargers in non-solar hours.

Poet H.S. Venkatesha Murthy passes away

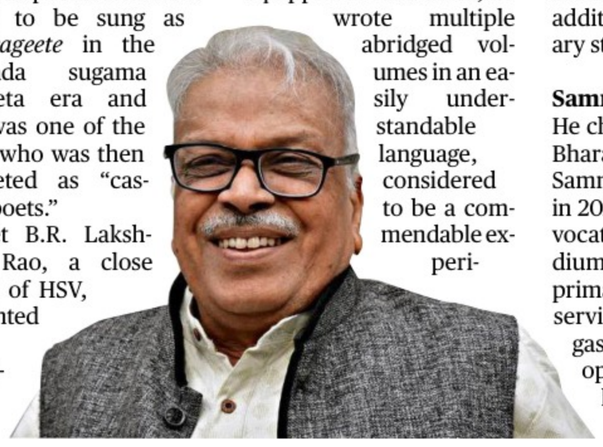
K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Kannada poet H.S. Venkatesha Murthy (HSV), 81, passed away in Bengaluru in the wee hours of Friday. He was suffering from age-related ailments.

Making his debut with the collection of poetry *Parivrutta* in 1968, during the Navya (modernist) movement, he continued to write until recently. A book-length retelling of Buddha's life and philosophy in verse, *Buddhacharana* (2020), was his last major work.

As he continued to write poetry through various literary movements, HSV preserved his own distinct identity. Critic S.R. Vijayshankar notes that in his attempt to come out of the influence of Gopalakrishna Adiga, the titan of the Navya movement, his poetry became closer to that of Pu. Thi. Narasimhachar and K.S. Narasimhaswamy, two poets HSV held dear.

His poetry was known to be modern but also "in conversation with tradition." His poems lent themselves to be sung as *Bhaavageete* in the Kannada sugama sangeeta era and HSV was one of the poets who was then bracketed as "cassette poets."



Poet B.R. Lakshman Rao, a close friend of HSV, recounted their friendship of over 50 years. "He was like an elder brother to me and this is a deep personal loss." His poetry, he added, was firmly rooted in tradition but had a modern flavour, which made him unique.

HSV's oeuvre

Though he was popular mainly as a poet, his literary output was diverse. He was also a playwright and his major plays include *Uriya Uyyale, Agnivarna,* and *Manthare*. He also wrote extensively for children – songs, rhymes, plays, and stories.

One of his children's stories, *Chinnari Mutha,* was adapted into a National-Award-winning film. HSV also directed a film *Hasiru Ribbon*, an autobiographical episode, in 2018. He also worked as a lyricist for films and tele-serials in Kannada. He penned multiple memoirs and an autobiography.

In an attempt to bring Kannada classical texts *Kumaravyasa Bharata* and Pampa's *Vikramarjuna Vijaya* to those not well equipped to read them, he wrote multiple abridged volumes in an easily understandable language, considered to be a commendable experiment to make these texts accessible to the younger generations. He was awarded the Bal Puraskar by Sahitya Akademi in 2013. He had earlier won the Akademi award for translation of Kalidasa's *Ritusamhara* as well. He won the Karnataka Sahitya Academy award five times.

Critic Rajendra Chenni said that HSV's literary output was not just diverse, but he was also truly a multifaceted personality, who experimented with various forms even in poetry. "His poetry was never just romantic, it had a reflective quality and had a sense of mystery as well," he said.

HSV was born in 1944 in a remote village, Hodigere in Channagiri taluk of Davangere. He studied and later worked at the famous residential school at Malladihalli, Chitradurga. He completed his studies at Bangalore University, taught Kannada at St. Joseph's Commerce College, and retired in 2000. His doctoral thesis *Kannadadalli Kathana Kavanagalu,* from Bangalore University, is considered an important addition to Kannada literary studies.

Sammalena chair

He chaired the 85th Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana at Kalaburagi in 2020 and apart from advocating for Kannada medium of instruction in primary education and reserving jobs for Kannadigas in the State, HSV also opposed Hindi as a link language in the country.

Mysuru–Kushalnagar highway project finally on track after long delays

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

After years of delays and hurdles, the long-awaited four-lane highway project connecting Mysuru and Kushalnagar is finally witnessing visible progress. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has commenced work on two key stretches of the 92-km greenfield corridor.

National Highways Authority of India has commenced work on two key stretches of the 92-km greenfield corridor. FILE PHOTO

Currently, construction is underway on a 19-km section from Agrahara in Srirangapatna to Yalachanahalli in Mysuru taluk, and another 24.10-km stretch from Belthur in Hunsur taluk to Harave Mallarajapattana in Periyapatna taluk. These developments follow the recent approval of Package 3 by the Central government, which was a long-pending demand by local commuters.

Officials from NHAI noted that the highway is being developed in response to the increasing vehicular load on the Bengaluru-Mysuru-Madikeri route. The new highway is anticipated to substantially reduce travel time between Bengaluru and Kushalnagar, which in turn will benefit travellers heading further west to Madikeri and Mangaluru.

A senior NHAI official said, "The realignment of the route will commence from Guddehosur near Kushalnagar and terminate close to Srirangapatna, where it will seamlessly link with the Bengaluru-Mysuru national highway (NH 275). This alignment is designed to ensure minimal disruption to Mysuru city, effectively diverting heavy traffic away from urban roads."

Land acquisition

The ₹4,130-crore project was inaugurated in March 2023 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, but ground-level work had been stalled due to prolonged land acquisition issues. Officials attributed the delay to disputes over compensation, lack of documentation among landowners, and ongoing litigation in some stretches.

Once completed, the highway is expected to ease traffic congestion in Mysuru, especially since it begins from Srirangapatna, thus avoiding the city altogether. This is expected to significantly streamline vehicular movement for travellers heading to and from Hunsur, Periyapatna, Kushalnagar, Madikeri, and even parts of Kerala via Kodagu.

"People travelling from Bengaluru towards Kodagu, Mangaluru, or Kerala will no longer need to enter Mysuru city. The new highway will provide a more efficient and safer route, especially during weekends and holidays when traffic volume typically spikes," said NHAI official.

Daily commuters and regular travellers echoed the need for the upgraded road. "Driving on this route during peak hours is a nightmare. The current road is narrow, filled with potholes, and overtaking is extremely risky. Accidents have become a common sight," said Shivakumar R., a software engineer who frequently travels from Bengaluru to Madikeri.

Cumulative rainfall for May higher than normal in south-interior Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The early onset of southwest monsoon and heavy rains that lashed south-interior Karnataka including Mysuru, Kodagu, Mandya, and Hassan have resulted in these districts recording higher than normal rainfall during May.

The months from March to May are typically classified as the pre-monsoon period. However, this year, the southwest monsoon arrived nearly 10 days ahead of its normal schedule, and the heavy rains in the region were largely driven by monsoonal activity rather than typical pre-monsoon showers.

According to the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC), the rainfall recorded in May falls under "large excess" category in almost all the districts in the region except Mysuru and Chamarajanagar. While Kodagu has recorded 644 mm of rainfall from March 1 to May 29, which is 178% above normal, Hassan has received 359 mm of rainfall during the same period, and it is 131% above normal. Mandya with 261 mm has received rainfall 71% higher than normal, while Mysuru has received 269 mm, which is 41% above normal. While rains in Kodagu, Hassan, and Mandya come under "large excess" category, Mysuru is classified under "excess'' while only Chamarjanagar comes under "normal" category in terms of rain.

Consequently, both the monthly data for May and the cumulative rainfall figures for the pre-monsoon period (March to May) are substantially higher than usual, making it difficult to compare with historical averages or draw meaningful trends for pre-monsoon behaviour this year, according to weather experts. Meanwhile, rains in Kodagu have subsided compared to the intensity of monsoon activity last week. The district has received 50.45 mm of rainfall during the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 a.m. on Friday.

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A BG-BGE

Need clarity on disposal of medicines and surgical products: Chemists' body

CDSCO releases a guidance document for safe disposal of unused and expired medicines

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Welcoming the guidance document on safe disposal of unused and expired drugs released by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) this week, the Bangalore District Chemists and Druggists' Association (BDCDA) has sought clarification on the disposal methods for expired cut strips of medicines and surgical products. Currently, there is no provision for the return and the disposal of these products.

The CDSCO's guidance document is aimed at addressing issues emerging from the careless disposal of unused or expired medicines and the hazards it creates in the environment and public health. The

Issues have emerged from the careless disposal of unused or expired medicines. FILE PHOTO

document is expected to help various stakeholders, including the general public, to dispose of expired or unused medicine in a safe manner, and is also an important move towards curbing the growth of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi, Drugs Controller General (India), in a communication dated May 25 to the Drugs Controllers of all States and Union Territories, called on them to encourage the stakeholders concerned in their respective States to adopt the guidelines for safe disposal of expired/unused drugs which will be an important step in combating AMR in the country.

The guidance document analyses various methods, including landfill after encapsulation or inertisation of drugs, use of sewer, burning in open containers, medium temperature incineration, novel high temperature incineration, and chemical decomposition. Examining the existing rule position, it details the procedures to be followed by stakeholders for the disposal of such drugs at each level.

"Upon reviewing the guidance document, we have identified several areas that require clarification and necessary ratification to ensure the successful and practical implementation of the disposal framework," said BDCDA president B. Thirunavukkarasu.

"We need clarity on the disposal and return process for cut strips of medicines, for Propaganda-cum-Distribution (PCD) medicines, expired generics where high-trade margins are cited, and expired surgical products such as gloves and syringes. Currently, these are disposed of just like any other trash in the dustbin," Mr. Thirunavukkarasu said.

Elaborating on the operational challenges from a retailer's perspective, he said there is a need to align with the industry practice of 150 days for return of expired medicines presently followed owing to the MoU signed between National Trade body and the pharma companies or provide a flexible period of 60 to 90 days.

COVID-19: Third death reported

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka recorded its third COVID-19 fatality this year with a 63-year-old male succumbing to septic shock, COVID-19 pneumonia, and multi-organ dysfunction on May 25 at a private hospital in Mysuru. The death was reported to the Health Department on Friday.

The patient, who was admitted to the hospital with breathlessness, altered sensorium, oliguria, and generalised swelling of the body, was vaccinated with two doses of Covishield and had chronic kidney disease (CKD) and bronchiectasis, a chronic lung condition.

The other two deaths were also reported in male patients. An 84-year-old in Bengaluru and a 70-year-old in Belagavi, who also had several comorbid conditions and developed COVID-19, succumbed to the disease on May 17 and May 26 respectively.

With 114 new cases reported in the last 24 hours, the number of active cases touched 234.

HMT land: Khandre recommends action against 2 IFoS officers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre on Friday recommended the suspension of two serving IFoS officers, including Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests R. Gokul, in connection with a case filed in the Supreme Court seeking permission to denotify HMT forest land valued over ₹14,000 crore. In addition, he has also recommended action against two retired bureaucrats under service rules.

Mr. Khandre told reporters that the land which is under HMT's control has not been legally converted for non-forest purposes, and therefore, as per various SC judgments and the Forest Conservation Act of 1980, the land remains classified as forest.

To a question on why no action had been taken in the past seven months since notices were issued to the officials in the IA filing case which was done without Cabinet approval, the Minister said: "A few officers submitted the IA without bringing it to the attention of the then Forest Minister or obtaining Cabinet approval. Notices were issued to four officers (two retired and two serving), and a recommendation has been made to the Chief Minister for further action."

Mr. Gokul had reportedly written to the CBI seeking protection and claimed that he was being made a "scapegoat" for taking action against Congress MLAs in the Belekeri case.

The Minister denied the allegations by the senior IFoS officer and said that on September 24, 2024, he sent a written note to the Additional Chief Secretary, to issue notices and take action against officials who filed the IA without prior cabinet approval.

"A month later, in October 2024, the Belikeri verdict came out. Mr. Gokul, to cover his own misdeeds, falsely accused the government in a letter to the CBI," he said.

Manivannan is new BDA Commissioner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government on Friday appointed 1998-batch IAS officer Manivannan P., Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, as the Commissioner of the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) with concurrent charge.

The appointment comes into effect on Saturday, according to the notification. The current BDA Commissioner, Jayaram N., will retire from service on Saturday.

Mr. Manivannan will assume charge of the BDA at a crucial juncture, with projects such as Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout progressing sluggishly, even as the recently announced skydeck project is now set to take shape within the layout at Kengeri, according to Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar.

Alongside the BBMP, the BDA is also under public criticism for its role in fuelling unchecked urban sprawl by approving developments without adequate infrastructure in the city.

Four major initiatives on AI launched

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Four major initiatives focused on Artificial intelligence (AI) and accessibility which aim to harness AI for the creation of inclusive digital ecosystems and offer scalable solutions in assistive technology were launched on Friday. At a national conference on AI for Empowering Persons with Disabilities, held in Bengaluru, the four missions [Mission AI accessibility; Mission AI: Implementation of AI in Assistive Technologies and Tools for Empowering People with Disabilities; National Disability Support AI Chatbot, and United Benefits Interface (UBI)] were launched.

Rajesh Aggarwal, secretary, Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, said: "A new era of inclusion has been ushered in by Artificial Intelligence."

His keynote presentation covered advancements in deep learning, robotics, and computer vision, emphasising their potential in improving the quality of life for people with disabilities (PwD).

The conference also showcased how AI can be a force multiplier in creating a more inclusive and accessible India.

It also brought together leading experts, government officials, technologists, and advocates to showcase how AI is enhancing accessibility and opportunities for PwDs.

'MSMEs in Karnataka should not rely on other countries'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka's micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) should not be dependent on any country for machinery and their maintenance, said Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar here on Friday.

Some MSME units here were dependent on Chinese machinery and now with issues around China and trade barriers introduced by the Donald Trump administration, they were not able to get their machines serviced on time and therefore suffered downtime and economic losses, he said at the opening session of a three-day India MSME Conclave here on Friday.

Citing an example of his own brother in this context, he said: "My brother started a silk-related MSME in Kanakapura and signed an agreement with a Chinese company. But owing to visa issues, technology training could not happen. Still, he is determined to make it work. But, we must reduce dependency on others."

Speaking on the occasion, Shobha Karandlaje, Union Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Labour and Employment, said the sector which was the backbone of India's economy has been facing diverse issues such as funding, technology access, and a lack of skill development.

"Governments have to continue investing in MSMEs for the country to grow. The MSME sector accounted for 30% of the GDP, provided employment to over 26 crore youth, and accounted for nearly 45% of the manufacturing output," she elaborated.

Ms. Karandlaje insisted that there has to be massive investments in infrastructure, especially in proper roads, electricity, water and allied services for the MSMEs to thrive.

The conclave is being organised by Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association, the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and the Peenya Industries Association, in association with State Bank of India.

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-3, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560052.
No:DGM-3/BSWML/TEND/03/2025-26 Date: 30.05.2025
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK KPP Portal only)
1.The waste processing plants established by BBMP are to be operated and maintained to process wet waste with approved technology to generate compost as per SOP
2.In view of this, tenders are invited on behalf of Managing Director, BSWML for the following works. The Tender documents can be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) on payment of prescribed fee noted against each item of work (non-refundable) in the form of e-Payment through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal
The Bidder shall submit the bid through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.

Name of the Work	Estimated amount Rs.in lakhs	EMD	Stipulated Period of Completion
Operation and Maintenance of wet waste processing plant of 120 TPD Capacity located at Seegehalli	994.27	Rs.1,00,000/- through e-payment under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs.13,91,405/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank	24 Months
Operation and Maintenance of wet waste processing plant of 300 TPD Capacity located at Chikkanagamangala	1986.45	Rs.1,00,000/- through e-payment under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs.18,86,405/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank	24 Months

CALENDER OF EVENTS: 1) Date of Pre bid meeting: **10.06.2025** at **15:00** hours in office of the Chief Engineer & Chief General Manager (Tech), BSWML, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560052. (2) Last date of submission of Bids in KPP Portal: **30.06.2025** before **16:00** hours. (3) The Technical Bid opening date in KPP Portal: **01.07.2025** after **16:30** hours. **Sd/- Deputy General Manager-3, BSWML, Bengaluru**
DIPR/CP/951/CCL/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Executive Engineer, Special Buildings Division-I, Public Works Department, Puducherry invites on behalf of the President of India, online bids for the following work(s):
Tender No. **08/SBD1/2025-26, Dt:30/05/2025**. Name of Work: **Improvements works to the Auditorium V.I.P Suites, Administrative Office of the Transit Accommodation to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor Office at Old Distillery Premises, Puducherry (Phase-II)**. Estimated Cost : **₹4,61,67,065/-**, (inclusive of GST) EMD: **₹9,23,341/-**, Period of Completion: **6 (Six) months** (including Monsoon Period).
e-Tender processing fee: **₹1500/-** + GST @ 5%. Last time and date of submission of bid **10/06/2025 4.00 P.M**. The date of tender opening **11/06/2025 10.30 A.M**.
The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **www.pudutenders.gov.in**.
No.154/DIP/AD(Press)/2025-2026 **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
Office of the Chief Engineer (East),
6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.
INVITATION FOR TENDER
(Through KPP Portal Only)
BWSSB invites Tenders from registered Agencies for the following Works.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount Put to Tender / EMD Amount	Last Date & Time for Submission of Tender	Date & Time for Opening of Tender
1	(South-East)-1	BWSSB/ EE(SE)-1/PB/ 116/2025-26 Dated: 30-05-2025	Rs. 30,42,000/- / Rs. 60,900/-	09-06-2025 Upto 5.00 PM	10-06-2025 After 5.01 PM

Sd/- Executive Engineer (South-East)-1
The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-Procurement Portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.
DIPR/CP/Adverto/942/2025-26

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)
SRM e-Tender No. T-2525/MSETCL/CO/Projects/Pre-Tender (RFx No. 6000001352)
MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below.
"Balance work for 400kV D/C Jejuri - Winjhar (Loc. 148) line i.e. LILO point of 400kV Lonikand-I - Koyna Stage-IV ckt II to Winjhar (Loc. 148) - 36.88 km of Package- A under Pune Zone, MSETCL Maharashtra on turnkey basis"
Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website. https://srmetender.mahatransco.in
The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from 28.05.2025.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL.

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)
SRM e-Tender No. T-2527/MSETCL/CO/Projects/Pre-Tender (RFx No. 6000001356)
MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below.
"Balanced work of Construction 400kV D/C line from LILO on 400kV Waluj-Bhusawal line Circuit-II to 400kV Thaptitanda Substation (Route Length- 22.43km) under Ch. Sambhajinagar Zone, MSETCL Maharashtra on turnkey basis"
Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website. https://srmetender.mahatransco.in
The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from 29.05.2025.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL.

ZILLA PANCHAYATH, TUMAKURU
Office of Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Madhugiri
Tender notification no:02/2025-26 Dated:19-05-2025
Behalf of Governor of Karnataka, Tender for Various works under Various Head of accounts of **P.R.E. Division, Madhugiri** have been published in e portal. Registered and Eligible contractors may submit the bids within **05-06-2025 upto 16.00 PM** through e-procurement website. For more details Contact **Ph. 080-25501216, 080- 25501227** or visit **http:/www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
DIPR/TUM/RO-34/25-26/Oysters P.R.E. Division, Madhugiri

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Joint Commissioner, South Zone Office complex, 9th Main, 9th Cross, Jayanagara 2nd Block, Bengaluru-11.
No. JC(S)/KPPP/e-portal/01/2025-26 Date: 30.05.2025
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
Two Cover System (Only through GoK KPP Portal)
The Joint Commissioner, South, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Commissioner, BBMP invites Tenders from eligible contractors for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Providing Cleaning, House keeping services at South Zonal Referral hospitals, Maternity hospitals, Dialysis centers & Health offices.
	Approx. amount put to tender : **Rs. 275.38 lakhs.** EMD : **Rs. 4,13,074/-**

Duration : **11 months.**
Calendar of Events: **(1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (2)** Date of Pre-bid meeting: **06.06.2025 at 3.00 pm in the office of the Joint Commissioner, BBMP / Executive Engineer, Project (South). (3)** Last date for uploading the tenders: **13.06.2025 upto 5.30 pm. (4)** Date of opening of Technical bids: **16.06.2025 at 5.30 pm. (5)** Date of opening of Financial bids: **18.06.2025 at 5.30 pm.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Joint Commissioner, South Zone, BBMP

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
KARNATAKA STATE MEDICAL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED
No.1, Dr. Siddaiah Puranik Road, KHB Colony, Magadi Road, Bangalore – 560079.
Phone: +91-80-29619801 Email: md.ksmscl@gmail.com
NO: KSMSCL/EQPT/SCM/WAREHOUSE/TND/10/2025-26 Dated: 30.05.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION
Nationwide Tender is invited through e-Tendering system under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tender:
TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT TO PROVIDE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NEWLY CONSTRUCTED WARE HOUSES OF KSMSCL (UDUPI, CHIKKAMAGALORE, CHAMARAJANAGAR, MANDYA, CHIKKABALLAPURA)
Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 30.05.2025.** The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.
Sd/- Managing Director, KSMSCL, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/AAA/947/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಆಡಳಿತ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ನಂಜನಗೂಡು ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.–571301
ದೂ.ಸಂ.: 08221–295156. ಇಮೇಲ್: ghngud@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಾ.ಆ.ನಂ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/01/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27.05.2025
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ
2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಈ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಗ್ರೂಪ್–ಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಅರೆ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತಾ ಕರ್ಮಚಾರಿ (ನಾನ್–ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್) ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಗಳ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999/2000 ರಂತೆ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.inನಲ್ಲಿ ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿಳಾಸದೊಂದಿಗೆ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. **1)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೌಲ್ಯ ಅಂದಾಜು ರೂ.57,93,406=90 **2)** ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.1,44,835=00 **3)** ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡುವ ದಿ: 27.06.2025 ಸಂಜೆ:05:00ರವರೆಗೆ **4)** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 30.06.2025 ಸಂಜೆ:05:00 **5)** ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 07.07.2025 ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ರಜೆಯೆಂದು ಘೋಷಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟರೆ, ಮುಂದಿನ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನವನ್ನು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕವೆಂದು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನುಮೋದನಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು:– ಮಾನ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಸಂಪರ್ಕದ ವಿಳಾಸದ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವಂತೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.
DIPR/DDMYS/272/KSMCA/225/2025-26 **ಸಹಿ/– ಆಡಳಿತ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು**

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, GRBCC Divn.4, Chikodi.
Ph :08338 - 272485 Email :ee_knnlgrbc4ckd@rediffmail.com
SERVICE TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through kpp portal only)
Tender Notification No:KNNL/GRBCC -4/Tender/2025-26/01 Date: 29-05-2025
LUMPSUM basis (in KC4) tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore for the work mentioned below, consisting of 1 consultancy work. The blank tender document can be downloaded from kppp portal of Government of Karnataka. (https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from 29-05-2025.
Indent No:Two Cover System:Service Indent No: Se0140. Approximate amount put to tender : Rs 80.80 Lakhs.EMD Amount: 1,62,000/-,Last date & Time for tender quarries/ Clarifications:05-06-2025, Up to 17.00 hrs.The last date & Time for receipt of tenders:09-06-2025 Up to 16.00 hrs.Date of Opening of tenders (Two Cover System):Technical Bid: 10-06-2025 at 16.30 hrs. Financial bid: 11-06-2025 at 16.30 hrs.
Further information can be had from under signed from the following Nos 08338-272485 & from e-portal (https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) during office hours.
The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.
Sd/- (S.S Karagar), Executive Engineer,
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-366/KSMCA/2025-26 **KNNL, GRBCC Division No.4, Chikodi**

PROPERTYPLUS
HOMES AND REAL ESTATE NEWS

thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens
THE HINDU

Fashion-forward villas in demand

How developers and HNIs in India are turning to fashion designers like Kunal Rawal and Sounak Sen Barat to outfit their homes

Aatish Nath

Clockwise from top: Nikhil Kamath and Abhijit Pai's combined office for NKSquared and Gruhas; JJ Valaya's interiors include custom-made furniture; Samarth Bajaj and Kunal Rawal; and (bottom) Sounak Sen Barat. ASHISH SAHI SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The coming together of fashion and interiors isn't new. Internationally, Armani, Bulgari and Versace are just three big maisons that have stamped their names on hotels and homes. In India, Sabyasachi's collaboration with Asian Paints and Delhi-based JJ Valaya's tile collaboration with FCML have allowed customers to bring a bit of the luxe life to their humble abode. But what about giving the entire home the designer treatment?

Last year, Mumbai-based menswear designer Kunal Rawal announced that he was entering the luxury real estate space. He chose Boheim, as they had projects planned for Goa, Alibaug and Hyderabad.

In Goa, Rawal will be designing the interiors of Finca Sagrada, a project in Colvale that features a stream running through the development, while interior designer Gauri Khan is helming the interiors of Sanctuary, a project in nearby Siolim. Lastly, Abu Jani and Sandeep Khosla are bringing their maximalist approach to villas in Goa, but this time in Moira. There is another project as well, called Gaia, featuring estates in Alibaug.

Those who have visited the duo's new store in Mumbai's Jio World Plaza will agree that the veteran designers know a thing or two about immersive experiences, rooted in Indian craftsmanship.

This is not the first time fashion and interiors are coming together, with Bengaluru-based Sounak Sen Barat, designer at House of Three, also working across both design spheres.

Barat launched interiors as a new vertical during the pandemic and hasn't looked back. Today, he makes time for both fashion and real estate projects and says, "We also work B2B in collaboration with niche luxury builders in the luxury second homes market."

Clearly there is a growing demand for all things designer approved in the living space. Samarth Bajaj, director at Boheim, says his company is aiming to do things differently, prioritising the environment, and hoping to champion craftsmanship, while also working with some of the biggest names in fashion design.

The Bajaj family has run Shiv Shakti Constructions since the 1960s, with projects in Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru. About tying up with these fashion designers, Bajaj notes, "So, the idea came from the fact that I've seen the spaces that they've designed for themselves, in terms of their homes or their retail stores, and I've absolutely loved what they've done." He elaborates, "I think that people who are not formally trained in a particular field have the liberty of bringing in a fresh perspective. Sometimes when you're professionally trained, you're bound by what you've learned."

In the past, designers such as Delhi-based Tarun Tahiliani and Valaya have worked on villas for private clients and developers. Valaya notes, "My process involves creation as well as curation," and so his interiors include custom-made furniture anchoring other elements such as antiques and carpets.

He goes on to explain that even though aesthetics is what people see first, any home must be architecturally sound, and to that end, he works with an architecture firm that ensures the technical drawings can be executed as well. Tahiliani has also worked in Goa on villa rentals such as the AIS Glass Villa.

Playing to their strengths

Every designer has their own signature, as Barat points out. "We create an industrial/Brutalism-inspired base and layer it with a combination of colonial, Bengali, Dravidian and Indian heritage elements that have been customised or sourced from across the length and breadth of India," he explains.

With Boheim, both Jani and Rawal admitted to being excited to branch out as they play to their strengths: looking to work with traditional crafts, while creating functional spaces. As Khosla puts it, "It's a home, so we can't over-clutter it with too many things."

Even though luxury now often involves automation, Khosla has a lot to say about what we're losing as we give up on tactility. "Abu and I hate this modernisation to a certain extent because putting your lights on and dimming them and putting them on too sharp... everything is at the click of a button now. Having said that, we are adapting to modernisation today," he says.

Bajaj, who is behind The Designer's Class, an online learning platform catering to those interested in design, explains that getting some of Indian fashion's biggest names on board for these homes was a conscious choice. "Under the brand [Boheim], we have about 10 projects that are ongoing right now. So, logistically it would have been much tougher if only one designer were to execute all projects."

Obviously no one is complaining. Designers are excited to have different avenues to showcase their vision, with Valaya noting, "I've found spaces as interesting as people because there's a complete blank canvas and you start working on it, whereas when it comes to people, it's about incorporating a person's individuality into what you're creating."

Boheim plans to deliver three of its 12 projects this year, with the first handover scheduled for June.

The writer is based in Mumbai.

REAL ESTATE

SELLING

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SARJAPUR - ATTIBELE RD
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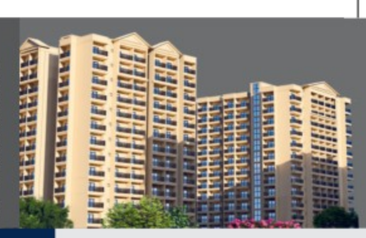

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CREDAI BENGALURU

From Page One

At least five killed as rains wreak havoc in DK

Many houses in low-lying areas in and around Ullal, such as in Kallapu, Uchchila, Kalkatta, Kumpala, Dharmanagara, Vidyanagara, were inundated with water entering houses. Some families shifted to safer areas.

Many houses, properties, and roads were damaged in flooding both in Mangaluru city and on its outskirts.

Holiday declared

The Dakshina Kannada and Udupi district administrations have declared holiday for anganwadis and for primary and high schools on May 30 in view of the rains.

Government schools were to reopen after summer holidays on May 30, but they did not due to the rains.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, who is also in charge of Dakshina Kannada district, arrived in Mangaluru in the evening and took stock of the situation. He visited some flood-hit areas and held a meeting with officials.

CM's Dashboard for monitoring development indicators launched

Siddaramaiah instructs officials to remain in taluk and district headquarters to address public grievances

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Chief Minister's Dashboard (CM's Dashboard), a platform that provides real-time, integrated insights into key development indicators across Karnataka, was launched on Friday.

It was launched by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah during the review meeting with the Deputy Commissioners of all districts and CEOs of all zilla panchayats at the State Secretariat here.

The dashboard, developed in-house by the Centre for e-Governance (CeG), is now functionally complete and hosted under the domain cmdashboard.karnataka.gov.in.

"This platform provides real-time, integrated insights into key development indicators across Karnataka, enabling data-driven governance and decision-making at the highest level," an official release said.

Integrated system

The dashboard is built using a microservices-based architecture, ensuring scalability and ease of integration. The data is integrated via APIs (application programming interface) from various departments, eliminating manual entry, said the release.

The dashboard categorises State performance data into four primary sectors: economic growth (e.g., investments and beneficiaries), legal/judiciary management (RTI and Sakala case disposals), infrastructure development (roads, irrigation, and renewable energy), and citizen-centric governance (guarantee schemes and Janaspandana).

The Chief Minister, during the launch, told respective officials to remain in the taluk and district headquarters to address the grievances of public. The district in-charge Secretaries were instructed to visit their respective districts twice a month for review of development works. He also told them to pay surprise visits to schools, hostels, and hospitals and submit reports to the Chief Secretary.

Referring to Indira Canteens, the Chief Minister instructed the Deputy Commissioners to commence delivery of food at all canteens which have buildings within a week. Out of 186 new Indira Canteens, construction of 103 had been completed. Food is being delivered at only 43 canteens.

The Chief Minister reviewed the district-wise data of farmer suicides and took to task officials for the delay in the release of compensation in 13 cases.

Encroachments

Dissatisfied with the delay in the recovery of encroached tank-bed areas, the Chief Minister told officials to undertake the survey work immediately and recover the encroached tank-bed areas. Out of 10,931 encroached tanks, officials have recovered 6,065 tank- bed areas.

New platform: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah unveiling the 'Chief Minister's Dashboard' during a review meeting in Bengaluru on Friday. Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh are seen.

Chief Minister's instructions

- Initiate disciplinary action against erring officials to clear applications under the Sakala scheme on time
- Purchase private land for burial grounds in case govt. land is unavailable
- Bring soldiers' welfare board proposal to the next Cabinet meeting
- Identify land for stadiums in 59 taluks
- Disburse applications under *bagair hukum* regularisation scheme

'Communal violence is a big blow to coastal region'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday said communal violence in coastal Karnataka was a big blow to the region and added that it would result in significant losses for the region and the State.

Speaking to reporters here, he said, "We have taken steps to protect all sections of society. Besides seeking the official report, a team from the party has also been sent to interact with the public and submit a report. We want peace to be restored in the region. This is not just about one or two deaths, the communal tension is a big blow to the region."

When asked about the situation not coming under control even after the transfer of officials from the district, Mr. Shivakumar said, "We are trying to control the situation. The BJP and other organisations are trying to provoke people on communal lines. The people of the region need to understand that it is they who will be affected eventually. Youth are already migrating to other regions for employment."

Chief Minister directs officials to address rain-related problems without any delay

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

There is no shortage of funds for providing relief for rain victims; more than ₹1,000 crore is available under the SDRF in districts, he says

With the early arrival of monsoon, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday instructed Deputy Commissioners and Chief Executive Officers (CEO) of zilla panchayats to execute the government's programmes promptly and face rain-related challenges to make administration more responsive to the public.

Mr. Siddaramaiah, who chaired a conference of Deputy Commissioners and zilla panchayat CEOs to review various development works, at the State secretariat here, told officials to address petitions received at the Janaspandana programmes to ensure justice to applicants. He told the Deputy Commissioners and tahsildars to participate in the Janaspandana programmes every month at the district and taluk levels.

High rains in May

The State had been receiving very high rainfall in May, and as many as 28 districts have received more than normal rainfall. Already, guidelines have been issued for providing relief, the Chief Minister said, and directed officials to expedite the process of relief disbursal.

He also instructed the Deputy Commissioners and zilla panchayat CEOs to visit rain-affected areas and take steps to implement relief measures without delay. A sum of ₹1.2 lakh is provided for the houses that have been totally damaged. There is no shortage of funds for providing relief for rain victims, he said, and added that more than ₹1,000 crore is available under the SDRF in districts. He said it was necessary to form task forces in each gram panchayat by involving various departments.

HC issues directions for maintenance of drinking water facilities

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has issued a series of directions to the State government for proper maintenance of drinking water infrastructure, including storage tanks, pipelines, and reverse osmosis (RO) plants, while asking it [the government] to come out with a comprehensive standard operating procedure (SOP) by incorporating its directions.

A Division Bench, comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria (as he then was) and Justice K.V. Aravind issued the directions while disposing of a PIL petition filed by Ramesh Naik L., a Tumakuru-based advocate.

Though the petitioner had brought to the notice of the court the issue of contaminated drinking water supplied in Tumakuru district, the Bench found it necessary to expand the scope for the entire State, as similar failures and deficiencies in the supply of pure drinking water persist across Karnataka.

Even if the infrastructure is in place, the failure to maintain it, thereby depriving individuals of access to pure drinking water, amounts to a failure on the part of the State to discharge its constitutional obligations as the State has a fundamental duty to supply drinking water fit for human consumption, the Bench said.

'Maintain records'

Stating that water treatment/purification plants, and underground and overhead storage tanks should be as per the standard scientific norms, the Bench said that the government should maintain detailed records of scheduled maintenance activities and nature of maintenance, and systematically preserve these records for production before the court as and when necessary.

Road map

Pointing out that dereliction of duty by authorities in maintaining drinking water pipelines is nothing short of a criminal act of endangering public health, the Bench said the government should formulate a comprehensive road map for inspection, maintenance, and replacement of pipes in a periodic and scientific manner and should preserve records of such inspections.

RO plants

As RO plants have been installed in areas where source of drinking water is borewell, the Bench directed the government to issue comprehensive guidelines prescribing the intervals at which maintenance of RO plants should be conducted, as they require sophisticated maintenance, including cleaning and replacement of filters.

While directing the authorities to preserve records of maintenance of RO plants, the Bench said that the total amount collected from RO plants, and expenditure incurred for maintenance, replacement of filters and other components should be systematically recorded and maintained as water through RO plants are dispensed on payment of nominal amount by users.

Meanwhile, the Bench directed the government to make all non-functional RO plants across the State in working condition within one month.

The High Court has directed the authorities to preserve records of maintenance of RO plants.
FILE PHOTO

'Siddaramaiah govt. has created a record in attracting court's wrath'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Stating that the withdrawal of criminal cases related to Hubballi riots in 2022 was not the first instance of the Karnataka High Court pulling up the Congress government in the State, the Opposition BJP on Friday claimed that the Siddaramaiah-led government had created a record in attracting the wrath of the High Court. In a post on social media platform X, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok termed the court's strong observations against the government's decision to withdraw criminal cases concerning the Hubballi riots as "cracking of whip against appeasement politics".

Recalling earlier instances when the Congress government's decisions had come under the court's scanner, he said the court had pulled up the government for handing over the veterinary hospital's land at Chamarajpet in Bengaluru to the Minorities Welfare Department.

Ravi's detention

Similarly, the government had also been pulled up over illegal detention of BJP MLC C.T. Ravi, corruption in the BDA, for filing cases against ED officials over alleged siphoning of funds of the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki ST Development Corporation Ltd., and so on, he said. In fact, the Siddaramaiah-led government had suffered an embarrassment even when it had challenged the permission for prosecution granted by the Governor with respect to the MUDA issue, he maintained.

Ex-Anglo-Indian MLA Derrick Fullinfaw dead

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Anglo-Indian MLA and prominent leader of the Anglo-Indian community, Derrick M.B. Fullinfaw, passed away in Bengaluru on Wednesday. He was 67.

He is survived by wife, Asha, son Gavin, and daughter Simona.

Mr. Fullinfaw, who was suffering from liver-related ailment, breathed his last at a private hospital. He was buried at the cemetery near Hosur Road here on Thursday.

Mr. Fullinfaw had been nominated as MLA from the Anglo-Indian quota in the 9th and 13th Karnataka Legislative Assembly. He served as chairman of the All-India Progressive Anglo-Indian Association and president of the State BJP Minority Morcha in Karnataka.

He is remembered for his in-depth understanding of the problems of the Anglo-Indian community in Karnataka and for his struggle to get them educational and employment opportunities. Though he had begun his political career with the Congress, he later shifted to the BJP that nominated him to the 13th Assembly. However, he had distanced himself from politics in the last few years. Mr. Fullinfaw, who began his career as a teacher at Baldwin Boys' School in Bengaluru, had gone back to teaching after completing his first term as MLA. He had then been appointed principal of Baldwin Polytechnic.

Derrick M.B. Fullinfaw
FILE PHOTO

ED1-4717/20 Dated: 24.05.2025
THRISSUR CORPORATION
ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
e -TENDER NOTICE
Construction of EV Charging Station
Last Date : 23.06.2025
visit us: www.tced.in
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Sd/-
Assistant Secretary
Electricity Department,
Thrissur Municipal Corporation

TAMILNADU INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD (TIDCO)
CIN-U65993TN1965SGC005327
NOTICE No. D/TIDCO/TKC-PMC Date: 31.05.2025
Tamilnadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd (TIDCO) intends to construct **"Knowledge Tower within Tamil Nadu Knowledge City in Tiruvallur district"**, Tamil Nadu. For this purpose, TIDCO invites proposals from the reputed consultants with the necessary expertise to provide **"Architecture, Engineering Design Cum Project Management Consultancy Services for Development of Knowledge Tower (in Tamil Nadu Knowledge City) at Tiruvallur District Tamil Nadu"** in accordance with the Terms of Reference as set out in the Request for Proposal document.
Interested Consultants can download the RFP from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** and **https://tidco.com**.
The schedule for the bidding process is as follows:
1. **Pre-bid meeting at 11-06-2025 12:00** Hrs through VC and physically at TIDCO Office, Egmore Chennai.
2. **Last date and time for Submission of Proposals is on or before 04.07.2025 - 17:00 Hrs.** through **https://tntenders.gov.in**
3. **Opening of Technical Proposals on 04.07.2025 - 17:30 Hrs** online through **https://tntenders.gov.in** at TIDCO Office
MANAGING DIRECTOR
Tamilnadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd
19-A, Rukmini Lakshmipathi Salai, Egmore, Chennai-600 008. Ph: 044-2855 4421
E-mail: cmd@tidco.com, karthikeyan@tidco.com; Website: https://tidco.com.
DIPR / **2711** / Tender / 2025

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in
No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-02/172/2025-26 Date: 30.05.2025
SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)
Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:
Name of the work: Shifting & Re-Routing of HT/LT Lines and transformer center at Dharwad Industrial Node Phase-1, Dharwad District.
The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **16.06.2025** upto **4.00 pm.**
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**
Sd/-
DIPR/CP/949/Zen/2025-26 Chief Engineer-2, KIADB Bengaluru

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

MEENAKSHI PANCHU
(Ballu)
Wife of late **R.Panchu** and Mother of **Sriram** and **Gautam Panchu**
Passed away peacefully on 30th May, 2025.
The obsequies will take place at 9.30 a.m. on 31st May, 2025 at 12, Sri Labdhi Colony Alwarpet, Chennai - 600018
Cremation at Besant Nagar.
Sriram Panchu - 98400 55379
Gautam Panchu - 9840098139

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

REMEMBRANCE

SHOBHA WARRIER
31.05.1964 - 16.09.2022
Fondly Remembered
Rugmini Warrier (Mother)
KR Warrier (Husband 9444454175)
Aparna Warrier (Daughter)
Sudha Warrier (Sister 9731218409)

INBRIEF

Drop plans to privatise medical colleges: SFI

Student Federation of India's (SFI) State committee leaders have slammed the State government for its reported plans to privatise 17 newly-established government medical colleges.

In a statement on Friday (May 30), the federation's State president P. Rammohan and secretary K. Prasanna Kumar said reports appearing in a section of media suggested that these medical institutions were being leased out to private entities for up to 66 years at throwaway prices.

Probe into serving of expired cold drinks on Vande Bharat

The Kerala State Human Rights Commission on Friday said that it has registered a case on its own after reports alleged that expired cold drinks were served on the Vande Bharat Express train from Mangaluru to Thiruvananthapuram on May 29. The commission said it has issued a notice to the Divisional Railway Manager in Palakkad, asking for a probe and a report within 15 days. The case will be heard on June 26 at the Government Guest House in Kozhikode.

Giri Pradakshina to be held at Simhachalam on July 9

The annual *Giri Pradakshina* of Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple will be held at Simhachalam in Visakhapatnam on July 9, Executive Officer V. Trinadh Rao announced at a meeting on Friday. He conducted a review meeting to discuss the arrangements to be made for the annual festival, which witnesses the participation of lakhs of devotees from various parts of Andhra Pradesh every year. Devotees walk along a 32-km stretch as part of the rituals.

Miss World 2025 set for glittering finale

It promises glamour and purpose, combining star performances, inspiring stories, and a sharp competition for the coveted crown

Siddharth Kumar Singh
HYDERABAD

Miss World 2025 contestants during a charity event in Hyderabad. NAGARA GOPAL

After a month-long journey through Telangana's rich culture, heritage, and a series of competitions featuring 108 beauty queens from around the globe, Miss World 2025 will culminate in a grand finale on Saturday.

The much-anticipated event will take place at the Hitex Exhibition Centre in Hyderabad.

The grand finale promises glamour and purpose, combining dazzling performances, inspiring stories, and a fierce competition for the coveted Miss World crown.

Bollywood stars

Stephanie del Valle, Miss World 2016, and popular Indian host Sachiin Kumbhar will anchor the evening, which will feature live performances by Bollywood stars Jacqueline Fernandez and Sachiin Kumbhar, informed a Miss World representative.

"A total of 3,500 people are expected to attend the event. Of these, 1,000 attendees secured their passes through the Telangana Tourism website. The remaining 2,500 will include the families of each contestant, invited by the Miss World Organisation as well as dignitaries such as the Chief Minister, Cabinet Ministers, senior bureaucrats, High Court Judges, and prominent figures from the fashion and entertainment industry," said Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan.

He will also serve on the panel of judges, which includes philanthropist Sudha Reddy, who hosted the Beauty With a Purpose Gala Dinner, and Dr. Caryna Turrell,

Four people dead as rain continues to batter Kerala

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Four people died in rainfall-related incidents in Kerala as the southwest monsoon continued to batter the State on Friday, causing damage to property and prompting the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to scale up alert levels.

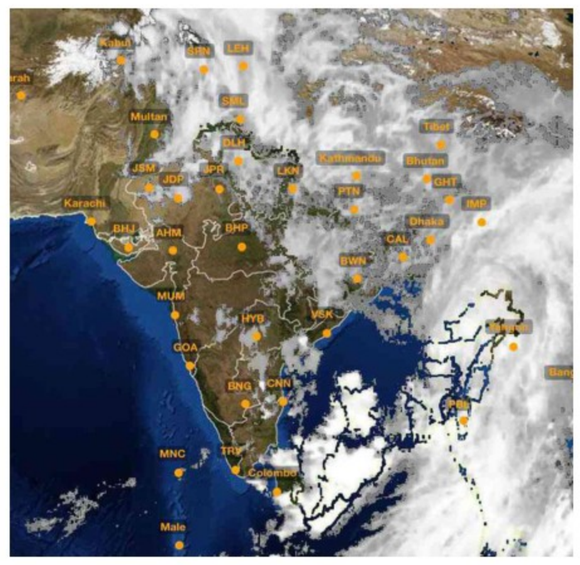
The deceased included a 52-year-old fisherman in Thiruvananthapuram whose body was recovered on Friday, two men aged 36 and 37 in Kottayam who died after their boat capsized, and a 39-year-old man who drowned in the Madhuvahini river in Kasaragod.

Efforts were also on to trace several people who were reported missing, including nine fishermen.

By Friday afternoon, the IMD had put eight districts on red alert for extremely heavy rainfall, while the remaining districts were on orange alert for isolated heavy to very heavy rain.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karnataka and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	122	28.5	25.8	Kozhikode	57	25.6	23.8
Ahmedabad	—	39.0	28.5	Kurnool	—	34.6	26.0
Aizawl	63.6	26.3	21.0	Lucknow	—	40.2	28.0
Allahabad	—	42.2	28.0	Madurai	0.9	32.4	25.1
Bengaluru	—	26.6	21.3	Mangaluru	35.3	27.8	23.0
Bhopal	—	36.6	27.4	Mumbai	—	33.7	27.2
Bhubaneswar	5	35.8	27.0	Mysuru	—	27.0	20.0
Chandigarh	14	36.4	21.0	New Delhi	—	34.8	27.3
Chennai	15.9	34.2	28.5	Patna	—	38.7	28.1
Coimbatore	—	25.8	22.6	Port Blair	2	32.0	27.0
Dehradun	6	30.0	20.7	Puducherry	—	35.0	26.8
Gangtok	3	23.6	17.9	Pune	—	34.6	26.0
Goa	26	32.0	26.4	Raipur	4	37.8	25.5
Guwahati	37	25.6	23.7	Ranchi	—	34.0	23.5
Hubballi	—	34.0	23.0	Shillong	135	20.6	17.8
Hyderabad	0.2	33.6	23.6	Shimla	46.1	27.0	14.4
Imphal	16.6	24.1	22.5	Srinagar	15	22.4	12.3
Jaipur	—	35.7	29.6	Thiruvananthapuram	41	27.8	24.6
Kochi	113	26.2	23.6	Tiruchi	2	34.1	26.4
Kohima	31	22.1	—	Vijayawada	1	36.6	27.0
Kolkata	18	35.0	26.0	Visakhapatnam	—	33.6	28.5

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.21	.63	.7	229	132	
Bengaluru	.8	.11	.14	33	119	
Chennai	.10	.15	.62	34	60	
Delhi	.19	.92	.31	238	142	
Hyderabad	.7	.29	151	40	83	
Kolkata	.23	.13	.26	24	50	
Lucknow	.8	.44	.36	73	106	
Mumbai	.2	.41	.21	116	199	
Pune	.11	.—	.73	111	104	
Visakhapatnam	.12	.74	.27	65	109	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Hanumangarh, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 254 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 15

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Swaraj is LDF candidate for Nilambur

M. Swaraj

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] Kerala secretariat has nominated M. Swaraj as the Left Democratic Front's candidate in the Nilambur Assembly byelection to be held on June 19.

Party State secretary M.V. Govindan told a press conference here on Friday that Mr. Swaraj, a party State secretariat member, was a native of Nilambur with profound grassroots-level connections.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan will inaugurate Mr. Swaraj's election convention in Nilambur on June 1.

Mr. Govindan termed P.V. Anvar, former LDF Independent legislator from Nilambur, a spent force. "Mr. Anvar betrayed the trust of Nilambur voters and switched sides to align with the Congress-led United Democratic Front. His presence or absence in the electoral fray has no bearing on the LDF's prospects," Mr. Govindan said.

KALYANA KARNATAKA ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

No.KKT/CO/ACC/BS/479 /2025-26 Date:28-05-2025

// TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE //

The Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC), Central office, Kalaburgi intends to avail a Term Loan of **Rs. 141-00 Crores** with the Government guarantee for payment of Diesel and Provident fund contribution with a competitive rate of interest from Nationalized/ Scheduled /Commercial Banks, Financial Institutions and Interested Government undertakings/PSUs. As per the tender notification No.KKT/CO/ACC/BS/3827/2024-25 dated:24-03-2025 the last date for submission of tender was fixed on 16-04-2025 upto 17.00 hours. Due to administrative reasons the last date was extended to 28-05-2025 upto 17.00 hours which is now again extended to **20-06-2025 upto 17.00 hours** for submission of tender. There are no other changes in terms & conditions of tender notification. Interested Banks can contact Chief Accounts Officer cum FA Ph no.7760992006 and Accounts Officer Ph no.7760992007 for further details if any.

Sd/-
Chief Accounts Officer cum FA

DIPR/Kalaburagi/170/KSMC&A/2025-26

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
(ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 CERTIFIED)
METROS, ANNA SALAI, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035.

E-Tender Notice

CMRL invites tenders through CPP Portal (https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app) from reputed, experienced, financially sound, eligible firms, who fulfill the qualification criteria as mentioned in the tender document under Single Stage Two Envelope (Technical & Financial) system for the assignment mentioned below:

Tender No: CMRL/CP/TDR-51-CS/2025: "Feasibility Study and Preparation of Detailed Project Report for Place Making and Beautification at Broken Bridge Area in Adyar, Area Below the MRTS Line Near Indira Nagar Railway Station and Velachery Rail Over Bridge."

(i) Document available from: 06/06/2025

(ii) Deadline for Bid submission: 07/07/2025 up-to 15:00 Hrs.

For NIT, please visit : www.chennaimetrorail.org

For Managing Director
Director (Projects)
Chennai Metro Rail Limited

DIPR/2702/TENDER/2025

कार्यालय नगर पालिका कपासन जिला चित्तौड़गढ़

क्रमांक / न.पा.क. / निर्माण / 2025–26 / 749 दिनांक : 23.05.2025

निविदा सूचना नं. 05/2025–26

नगरपालिका कपासन द्वारा नगर निकाय में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत एवं अन्य विभागो में 'ए' एवं 'एए' श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदको से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई–प्रोक्यूमेन्ट प्रक्रिया से वेबसाईड eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑन लाईन निविदाएं आमन्त्रित की जाती है। निविदा शर्तें एवं निविदा प्रपत्र संवेदक sppp.rajasthan.gov.in & eproc.rajasthan.gov.in से प्राप्त कर सकेगें। उक्त निविदा वेबसाईट sppp.rajasthan.gov.in के **NIB Code : DLB2526A1868** पर देखे तथा निविदा का विवरण निम्न प्रकार है:–

कार्य निविदा के कार्य	कुल 01 कार्य
निविदा की अनुमानित लागत	राशि 149.73 लाख रूपये
निविदा पब्लिश दिनांक एवं समय	दिनांक 30.05.2025 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से
ऑन लाईन निविदा डाउनलोड दिनांक एवं समय	दिनांक 30.05.2025 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से
ऑन लाईन निविदा जमा करने की अन्तिम दिनांक एवं समय	दिनांक 19.06.2025 प्रातः 11:00 बजे तक
डी.डी. एवं दस्तावेज जमा कराने की अन्तिम दिनांक एवं समय	दिनांक 19.06.2025 दोपहर 12:00 बजे तक
तकनीकी बिड़ खोलने की दिनांक एवं समय	दिनांक 20.06.2025 दोपहर 2:00 बजे
वित्तीय बिड़ खोलने की दिनांक एवं समय	तकनीकी बिड मुल्यांकन पश्चात्
Unique Bid Number	
1 DLB2526WSRC06251	

अध्यक्ष
नगरपालिका कपासन

राज.संवाद / सी / 25 / 3327

अधिशाषी अधिकारी
नगरपालिका कपासन

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/55 -2025-26

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM Two Bid system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs. in Lakh) / Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) Submission & Opening of Tender
SP/T-16/0525_TKC1 (RFx No. 7000036537) (1st Call) Drone based aerial patrolling as well as Ground Patrolling of EHV Transmission lines for identification of defects, health assessment & Thermography of various EHV Tower locations under EHV PC O&M Zone, Amravati & Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar.	1983.83 / 25,000.00	20.06.2025 16:00 / 20.06.2025 16:30
Pre-bid meeting Date, Time & Venue	Date: 05.06.2025 Time: 16:30 Hrs. Venue: 8th Floor, MSETCL, "Prakashganga", BKC, Bandra (E), Mumbai	

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr-P&C) Tel.No.022-69852720/022-69852717 Cell.No.09619469933
Email:1) C.E. (CPA) 2) E.E. (Group-TKC1), CPA, C.O. MSETCL, 1st Floor, Prakashgad Building, Bandra (E), Mumbai Email id: cecpa@mahatransco.in, eetkc1@mahatransco.in,
For further details visit our website http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.

S/d
Executive Engineer (P&C)

Government of Karnataka
RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY & SANITAION DEPARTEMENT, DIVISION, CHITRADURGA .
Phone No.: 08194-234488 e-mail: eerdwsd.chd@gmail.com

Tender Notification No: EE/RDWS&SD/CTA//Tender/109/2025-26 Date: 29.05.2025

Tender Notification

Tender has been invited Under 2025-26 FY Swacha Bharath Mission (G) Schemes in Two cover system. Eligible tenders may obtain the details and tender documents and submitted the filled tender online through website view.http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Construction of 3KLD capacity FSTP's at Holalkere Taluks for an estimated cost of Rs. 85.00 Lakhs Last Date for Receipt of Bids Date: 12.06.2025, Technical Bid Opening 13.06.2025 and Financial Bid Op Opening 16.06.2025 For Further details Office of Executive Engineer and also through e-port web site http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/121/2025-26

Sd/- Executive Engineer
RDWS&S Division, Chitradurga

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ನೀಸ&ಒಚ(ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ವಿಭಾಗ, ವಾವಿನೀಸ ಆವರಣ, ಯಾದವಗಿರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈನೆಪಾ/ಕಾಇಂ/ನೀಸ&ಒಚ(ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ)/ಟಿಎನ್–04/184/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.05.2025

ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಅನುದಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ KTPP ನಿಯಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ (ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:	ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1.	Kw-1& Kw-2	06 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು	151.11	02.06.2025	17.06.2025	18.06.2025
2.	KW-4	01 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	150.00	02.06.2025	17.06.2025	18.06.2025

ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ/ಬದಲಾವಣೆ/ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ನೀಸ&ಒಚ (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ವಿಭಾಗ
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು

DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/280/25-26

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer KBJNL SBC O&M Division Khanapur.
Tq: Shahapur Dist: Yadgiri Email Id: kbjnleesbc2@gmail.com

NO.KBJNL/SBC/O&M/Divn/Kpur/Tender/B'flank/PB/2025-26/47 Dated:28.05.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(ONLY THROUGH ELECTRONIC TENDER SYSTEM)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL Bangalore, the Executive Engineer KBJNL, SBC O&M Division Khanapur. Tq: Shahapur Dist: Yadgir invites percentage tenders in two Cover system from the eligible Contractors for the works mentioned in the table below.

The blank tenders can be obtained through www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and can be submitted through electronic tender box.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE DETAILS OF THE WORKS PUT TO E-TENDERING

1) Work details: Indent No. 1565 & 1567. **2) Amount Put to tender**: Indent No. 1565 = Rs. 8600.32 Lakhs. Indent No. 1567 = Rs. 8888.81 Lakhs. **3) E.M.D amount put to tender:** Indent No. 1565 = Rs. 86.00 Lakhs. Indent No. 1567 = Rs. 88.89 Lakhs. **4) The contractor can have access to the electronic document, i.e Tender Schedules, bid documents and other documents in the website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in on payment of tender processing fee (non-refundable):** From dated: 29.05.2025 upto dated:30.06.2025 till 04:30 PM **5) The last date & time for submission of electronic documents through e-portal**: On date: 30.06.2025 upto 04:30 PM. **6) Date & time for opening of electronic document first (Technical bid):** On dated: 02.07.2025 @ 11:30 AM. **7) The electronic document second (financial bid) of pre-qualified contractor will opened on On dated:** 07.07.2025 @ 11:30 AM or After approval of Technical bid. **8) For more information contact details:** Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, SBC O&M Division, Khanapur of Shahapur Taluka, Yadgir Dist. 9. Website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

NOTE: - Further information may be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours or from www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, SBC O&M Division,
Khanapur.

DIP/YDG/83/KSMC&A/2025-26

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. CEE/Tr(O)Z/HSN/SEE (O)/AEE-3/F-T1/2025-26/3115-18 Date: 29.05.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

KPTCL invites bids through E-Procurement mode for the following work:

Tender No/ Name of the Work
KPTCL/2025-26/EL/ WORK_INDENT2218
Combined package of balance portion of associated works pertaining to augmentation of Power Transformers at **Hiremagaluru, Balehonnuru and Lakkavalli 66/11kV substations in Operation Division,** KPTCL, Chikkamagaluru on **PTK basis.**

The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the E-Tendering process can be obtained by logging on to website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on hyper link "tenders" on or after **02.06.2025 @ 11:00 Hrs.** Other details can be obtained from Office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electy.
Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, 3rd Floor,
Prasarna Bhavana, Santhepete, B.M. Road, Hassan – 573 201

Rebuilding J&K

Civilians need physical and economic security to recover from the shelling

Jammu and Kashmir bore the brunt of Pakistan's response to Operation Sindoor, and Union Home Minister Amit Shah rightly focused on both security and development during his visit to Poonch, where residential areas were hit by shelling from across the border. A comprehensive relief package is planned alongside the construction of more underground shelters for civilians. The J&K government is still in the process of assessing damages, but Poonch was by far the worst-affected district. A preliminary report submitted by a committee set up by the BJP to the Ministry of Home Affairs identified 1,500 houses – 690 in Poonch and 534 in Uri – that were damaged in the indiscriminate shelling. At least 18 civilians – 14 in Poonch alone – lost their lives. Pakistani shelling hit towns in Poonch, Baramulla, Kupwara and Rajouri, and the damage to civilian infrastructure was considerable. Mr. Shah on Friday visited the affected regions, expressed solidarity with the people, and handed out job appointment letters to the kin of those who lost their lives. Earlier, the Leader of the Opposition, Rahul Gandhi, and representatives of the Trinamool Congress visited the victims.

These border residents felt heard, their sense of fear dissipated to some extent, and their morale boosted by these visits. The Indian Army's statement on the India and Pakistan ceasefire "not having an expiry date" is reassuring for the border residents. Life is limping back to normalcy with residents returning to their homes, many of them shattered by the shelling. The J&K government is struggling to meet the demands of the affected population. This was evident from the relief amount approved up to ₹1.2 lakh to fully damaged houses. The affected and displaced residents described it as "insufficient" for them to return to their once-concrete and multi-storey houses. Against this backdrop, Mr. Shah's promise of a relief package is a ray of hope. Around 9,500 bunkers – 8,000 in the Jammu division and 1,500 in the Kashmir Valley – have been built by the Centre so far. However, there is a growing demand for individual bunkers in sparsely located populations in border areas of J&K, especially in the Kashmir Valley, to ensure civilians manage to shift to safer locations immediately in case of shelling by Pakistan. The Centre and the elected government in J&K should work in tandem to help border residents who are in distress.

Steep decline

Rural consumption remains poor despite the lowering of inflation

India's factory output performance measured monthly by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) and released by the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI) slowed to an eight-month low of 2.7% in April, at the start of fiscal 2026. It also marked a steep decline, almost halving from last April's 5.2% growth. This correlates with the monthly gauge of the eight core sectors by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which posted a 0.5% growth in April, also an eight-month low. More significantly, it is a steep decline from last April's 6.9%. The eight core sectors make up about 40% of the weight of items included in the IIP. This comes on the back of a 4% growth in industrial output for the last fiscal, which was the lowest in the past four years. Of particular concern is the contraction in mining by 0.2%, the first since August 2024. While the absolute value of mining exports has risen in the past decade from $25 billion in FY15 to $42 billion in FY25, its share in exports has fallen from 8.1% to 5.1%. This still constitutes a not-so-insignificant share in India's overall goods exports at a time of great trade volatility. However, both manufacturing and power production also slowed to 3.4% (4.2%) and 1.1% (10.2%), respectively, in April.

While trade and tariff-related uncertainties are most likely to have impacted goods output, the continuing contraction in consumer non-durables' output for the third consecutive month suggests persistently low rural consumption, as essentials such as food make up a significant portion of consumer non-durables. This is a clear indication that despite retail inflation hitting an almost 6-year low at 3.16% in April, it has not translated into higher spending power for rural communities, where consumer non-durables have the most demand. Food prices contracted for the sixth straight month to 2.14%, which led to below MSP rates for most staples at mandis. The government must focus on raising rural incomes by implementing MSPs for farm produce more systematically. This would aid in increasing rural consumption. However, a surge in capital goods output to 20.3% in April, albeit from a low base, indicates confidence in the domestic economy as investors continue with their plans to diversify exports, attempting to rely less on the U.S. With trade-related sectors expected to continue to stay volatile in the near-term, the Centre must push the private sector to increase capital expenditure at home. This will increase incomes, and aid in raising consumption demand. Export-oriented sectors must also aim to ring-fence themselves from tariff, price and supply chain shocks by ensuring a robust domestic presence, while also diversifying outside the traditional export regions of the U.S. and the EU.

Pakistan's India war

M.K. Narayanan

Former Director, Intelligence Bureau; former National Security Adviser; and former Governor of West Bengal

As India reflects on the outcome of the brief military conflict with Pakistan in early May, it may be worthwhile to ponder over the current reality that even as India's cultural diversity and sweep of history may be unparalleled in a civilisational context, it remains prone to attacks from countries in its vicinity and beyond. An incorrigible Pakistan is continually finding ways and means every few years to provoke a conflict, and despite being worsted in every one of these conflicts and wars, remains undeterred, seeking to 'bleed India by a thousand cuts'.

The very existence of a secular democratic India appears to be anathema to Pakistan. As India progresses towards becoming a global power (it is already the fourth largest economy in the world), Pakistan is descending into near anarchy. Yet this neighbour of ours, dominated by a military mindset, is contriving to find ways and means of undermining India's progress. Peace for India, hence, depends on who rules Pakistan, which almost invariably is the military. There are no easy solutions to this problem, and India needs to prepare for war at all times.

The Pakistan of today

Today, it is fashionable to talk of the disintegration of the world order. The deafening silence of the world to the 'genocide' taking place in Gaza, with innocent civilians being killed at an alarming rate, contrasts with the din and noise – and the numerous efforts at peace – being made to end the Ukraine conflict. This dichotomy of approach stems from a grim truth or reality, viz., that the world has different standards when it comes to the killing of Asians and Europeans. If there is any further evidence needed to demonstrate that the international order is crumbling and that 'might is again becoming right', one has only to look at the recent conflict provoked by Pakistan, which the West scrambled to end once they found Pakistan was the loser.

A crucial 'sub-text' to how bigger nations intervene to end a conflict between smaller entities is also now becoming available. For instance, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has bartered his critical mineral resources to gain U.S. support in the war against Russia. In the Pakistan context, it is now being surmised that U.S. interest in claiming to having brought peace between Pakistan and India (notwithstanding denial by the latter) stems from U.S. interest in Pakistan's store of critical minerals, such as lithium, copper and rare earths. Also, intrinsic to this is the fact that the military in Pakistan, which is and has been, the critical player in the regional sweepstakes, is unlikely to forget the U.S. President's 'gesture' even if there is little substance to his claims.

Peace in the subcontinent is the major casualty today, and not solely because of the short (recent) India-Pakistan conflict. India, and the region itself today, confronts a military Pakistan which has shed the cloak of democracy and is today a virtual military dictatorship. It has a titular civilian Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif, who is standing in for his brother (Nawaz Sheriff), who is legally constrained from holding an electoral office.

> Pakistan, dominated by a military mindset, is contriving to find ways and means of undermining India's progress

More important, the government is 'in hock' to the army, and the latter after having denied Imran Khan an opportunity to contest elections, is now showing its true colours. A few weeks ago, Pakistan's current Chief of Army Staff, Gen., now Field Marshal, Asim Munir proclaimed that Pakistan is not a democracy, but a religious entity. He went on to say that in the history of humanity, there had been only two states based on the 'Kalima'. The first was the Riyasat-e-medina. The second, 1,300 years later, was Pakistan. He added that 'Pakistan is different from Hindus in every possible aspect of life – religion, custom, tradition, thoughts and ambitions' and that 'Kashmir was the jugular vein'. The rest is history – a future in which further conflicts should be anticipated.

What to expect next

It might, hence, be useful to surmise what one might expect from the recent India-Pakistan conflict. It is certain that there will be a recrudescence of religious nationalism, not only in Pakistan, but across parts of South and West Asia. Next, is the impact of the technological revolution – limited though the conflict might have been. The conflict has demonstrated the criticality of ensuring 'escalation dominance' in the shortest possible time. Furthermore, one should view the recent conflict as a kind of 'proxy conflict' between hi-tech military suppliers on either side. Each has been more anxious than the other to know how their equipment performed – the Rafale versus China's J-10C, for instance – hoping to find better answers to their respective electronic signatures during future operations.

Also, India and Pakistan have demonstrated their ability to flood the heavens with inexpensive expendable reconnaissance and strike vehicles. Above all, there is a realisation that there is more to drones' warfare than was known till date.

Reams have been written about Pakistan's use of Turkish Songer drones and China's J-10C during the recent conflict. India is said to have responded by using Kamikaze drones and the like. What is evident from all this is that air defence today involves several multi-layered air defence systems. Unproven, however, is whether Pakistan could integrate a Pakistani ground radar illuminating an Indian target enabling a Chinese J-10C fighter to launch its missile to hit its target as both China and Pakistan propaganda make out. The latter is solely in the realm of speculation – essentially by Pakistan and China – though what comes out loud and clear is the versatility of airborne early warning systems and the kind of system integration in place. All this has brought a new dimension to airborne warfare. Today's 'noise' is, hence, all about air-to-air engagement, with speculation being rife as to whether Chinese-origin weapon and air defence mechanisms have the measure of India's Rafale fighters and Western equipment. To equipment manufacturers, it is the effectiveness of the 'kill chain' that matters, or is more important, than the capabilities of specific fighters.

What is, however, proven is that the Aakash Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile alongside Russia's S-400 and the Barak (jointly developed with Israel) provided India with more than adequate cover. India possibly did not need to employ or demonstrate its ultimate weapon, the Brahmos (jointly developed with Russia). Pakistan clearly has no answer to it. Both sides did, however, show an improved capability for electronic counter-counter measures to penetrate enemy jamming and evasion tactics.

Technological warfare of the future

The conflict, however, demonstrated in no uncertain terms that future wars will essentially be technological in nature. Technological dominance and the speed with which escalation takes place will dictate the course of future wars. Currently, India has an edge over Pakistan as far as escalation dominance is concerned, but this need not always be the case. It is also important to remember that in a fragmented, multipolar, geopolitical environment, there will be little scope or time for imposing restraint on a party, once a major conflict begins. Arms control agreements also may have little relevance in future wars. Worse, it is already the best known secret that new nuclear warheads and cruise missiles are being designed and kept in readiness for use. The realisation needs to dawn that the nuclear threshold is narrowing rapidly.

It is germane to mention here that while India's position on land, sea, and air is more than adequate to deal with a Pakistan, the situation could alter in the event of a two-front war involving both China and Pakistan. In such a situation, India will need to balance the combined capabilities of Pakistan and China and this will throw up some neglected aspects such as India's lack of a dedicated satellite system and satellite-based surveillance network. It bears repetition that modern warfare increasingly depends on space-based assets to act as an early warning system and for a variety of tasks, apart from tracking and communication. This lacuna will need to be overcome in real time before the next outbreak of a major conflict, whether with Pakistan, China, or any other country, occurs. To reiterate, India cannot afford to overlook its inadequacies as far as space-based capabilities are concerned. Space is the new domain of warfare, and India must be fully prepared for this eventuality.

Don't merely enrol students, but equip them with skills

Gourishankar S. Hiremath

Teaches Economics at IIT Kharagpur. Views are personal

As the admission season for colleges and universities begins, institutions across India are once again promoting their programmes under banners promising knowledge, transformation, and research excellence. This growth in enrolment at the undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD levels suggests a dynamic academic landscape full of potential. Yet, beneath this expansion lies an important challenge: degrees are proliferating faster than meaningful job opportunities.

A gap that needs attention

According to data released by the Ministry of Statistics, the unemployment rate in India tends to increase with higher education levels. This paradox reveals a critical gap between academic achievement and employability – a gap that requires urgent attention.

This challenge is particularly acute in India's vast network of non-elite institutions in Tier 2 and tier 3 colleges, where most students pursue BA, BCom, or BSc degrees and their corresponding master's programmes. These institutions often face resource constraints and limited industry connections, operating with curricula that have not kept pace with the evolving job market. While elite colleges make headlines for placement challenges, the gradual erosion of employability in everyday colleges often goes unnoticed.

In many such institutions, instruction remains largely theoretical, with limited emphasis on real-world skills. For example, an English literature student might study Shakespearean tragedy yet miss out on learning practical skills such as writing professional emails. Similarly, an economics graduate may understand complex theories but struggle with everyday tools such as Excel. This disconnect means millions of educated young people find it difficult to translate their degrees into career opportunities.

> Viewing education as a social contract that guarantees a meaningful connection between learning and livelihood is essential

This situation stems partly from a deeply entrenched academic culture that values scholarship and abstraction over practical application. Within many academic circles – even prestigious ones – higher education is often celebrated as an end in itself, while immediate employment is sometimes subtly undervalued. Postgraduate degrees and PhDs are frequently pursued not just for intellectual fulfilment but as a refuge from the job market, creating a cycle where many graduates end up teaching in the very colleges that perpetuate the same system.

It is important to recognise that successive governments have acknowledged this issue. Initiatives such as Skill India, Start-Up India, and the National Education Policy have pushed for skill development, vocational training, and entrepreneurship. However, the transformation remains incomplete. Many undergraduate and postgraduate programmes continue to emphasise rote learning over practical skills. While new courses in AI or entrepreneurship are being introduced, they often lack depth, and integration into the broader curriculum.

A broader societal challenge

Countries such as China and Japan have successfully aligned education with economic strategies by elevating technical and vocational education to a central role in workforce development. In India, vocational training is still often perceived as a fallback option, both within academia and society. This stigma limits the appeal and effectiveness of skill-based education, despite its vital role in economic empowerment.

This contradiction highlights a broader societal challenge: degrees are highly valued as symbols of upward mobility, but they increasingly fail to guarantee it. This is not a call to abandon liberal education or abstract learning – they remain essential for critical thinking and creativity. However, education must also provide tangible economic benefits. Degrees should offer pathways to agency and dignity, especially for students from smaller towns and under-resourced institutions.

A way forward lies in integrating practical skill modules – communication, digital literacy, budgeting, data analysis, hospitality, tailoring, and health services – into general degree programmes as core elements, not optional extras. Doctoral education should be diversified to prepare candidates for policy, analytics, consulting, development, and industry roles, not solely academia. Research remains vital, but it must be pursued by those inclined towards it.

Finally, the widespread aspiration for government jobs reflects the limited opportunities graduates currently perceive. While these roles remain important, expanding private sector and entrepreneurial pathways through improved employability will offer youth a broader range of options. Enhancing skills and opportunities can reduce the over-dependence on competitive exams. India's growing economy demands an education system that not just enrols students, but equips students with skills. Viewing education as a social contract that guarantees a meaningful connection between learning and livelihood is essential.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A setback for Trump

U.S. President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs had left most countries of the world, especially the smaller ones, shaken. The ruling by the federal court comes as a major relief to them now ("Major setback for Trump as U.S. court blocks tariffs," May 30). It shows that no one, not even the U.S. President, is beyond questioning.

Balasubramaniam Pavani
Secunderabad

All hype, no substance

The article, "A hype comes crashing down" (May 30) exposes the truth behind massive infrastructure projects. While corruption and substandard construction practices have always been prevalent, we have the added problem of hype in the age of social media. Whether it is about the government's initiatives or a company's performance, the media goes overboard in its coverage, often to the point of propagating falsehoods. There is no need to cover ministers posing for selfies against the backdrop of infrastructure projects, or press conferences about projects that are in the nascent stage. Instead, we need to ask where taxpayers' money is going.

Sharada Sivaram
Ernakulam

Tharoor, an asset

Shashi Tharoor's experience as a former diplomat, writer, and an intellectual with distinct opinions has established him as an independent thinker. His selection as the leader of one of the seven all-party diplomatic delegations on Operation Sindoor is thus justified. His global stature is hardly matched by any other leader from the Congress. Mr. Tharoor is a strong advocate of India's soft power on the global stage. The Congress should read the public mood on Operation Sindoor and treat Mr. Tharoor as an asset ("No let-up in war of words between Congress leaders and Tharoor", May 30).

Nagarajamani M.V.,
Hyderabad

No love lost

The Prime Minister had recently said that the Union and State governments must work together as a team. How can he expect States to cooperate with the Union government if he keeps berating them? ("Modi, Mamata spar over riots, school recruitment exam", May 30)

V. Padmanabhan
Bengaluru

To read more letters online, scan the QR code.

GROUND ZERO

Mannepalli Ankamma holds her employer's daughter. Ankamma's nine-year-old son was taken away from her as 'collateral' for a debt and was later found dead. G.N. RAO

A nine-year-old bonded labourer

Last week, a duck farmer was arrested on charges of keeping a child from Andhra Pradesh as 'collateral' for a loan and then killing him in Tamil Nadu. Though bonded labour has long been banned by law, it continues to be practised, say activists. **Nellore Sravani** reports on how the boy's mother, Ankamma, a woman from a tribal community, tried in vain to bring her child back home

Two years ago, Mannepalli Ankamma, a woman from a tribal community in Andhra Pradesh, who does not know her age, decided to work for N. Muthu, a 60-year-old duck farmer. He promised her a salary of ₹24,000 a month for herding cows and helping him run a sweet shop in Satyavedu, a town in the Tirupati district of Andhra Pradesh. Ankamma took an advance of ₹15,000 from him. When she was unable to repay the amount, Muthu took away her youngest son, M. Venkatesh, as 'collateral'. He also allegedly inflated the amount she owed him to ₹42,000.

On April 9, Ankamma spoke to Venkatesh over the phone. The nine-year-old boy told her that he was busy tending to Muthu's ducks in Kancheepuram district in Tamil Nadu. Ankamma lives in Thurakapalle village in Duttaluru mandal of Nellore district in Andhra Pradesh, where she works in her current employer Siva Reddy's lemon orchard. She assured her child that she would be there in two days with ₹42,000 of cash in hand. She promised that he would be home soon.

Before ending the call, Ankamma asked Venkatesh what he had eaten for lunch. Curd-rice, he said, an improvement over the previous day's meal of rice mixed with water.

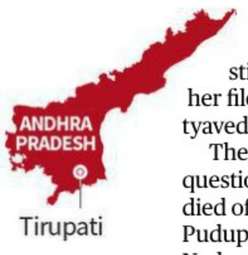
That was the last time Ankamma spoke to him.

> It was my fault that I accepted a loan of ₹10,000 from a creditor. At the time, we had no work, no food, and no access to drinking water. So, I took the money
>
> **KOTTAIAH**
> Former bonded labourer

Buried by the river

A week later, clutching wads of cash, Ankamma travelled to Satyavedu, about 270 kilometres from her village. But Muthu refused the money.

"He used casteist slurs against me," she recalls. "He also told me that my son had run away with his phone and some cash." Dejected, Ankamma returned home.



When a month passed and there was still no word from Venkatesh, Reddy helped her file a First Information Report (FIR) at the Satyavedu police station on May 19.

The police began their investigation. On being questioned, Muthu told them that Venkatesh had died of jaundice on April 12 at a private hospital at Pudupalayam in Tiruvannamalai district of Tamil Nadu. He confessed that he had buried the boy near the Palar river.

The police found Venkatesh's decomposed body and informed Ankamma. "I knew it was him. He was wearing a vest and shorts. I knew it was my boy though he had become unrecognisable," says Ankamma, her cheeks wet with tears.

While the medical officer from the Chengalpattu Government Medical College declined to share the post-mortem report, the Puttur police quoted the report and said that the stated cause of death was "blunt force injury to the head by (a) heavy weapon". The injuries were "sufficient to cause death in ordinary course of nature".

At first, Muthu, his wife, and son were arrested under the provisions of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976; the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986; the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2016; and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

On May 24, Deputy Superintendent of Police G. Ravi Kumar, who probed the case, said Section 103 (1) (murder) under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, was also added to the FIR.

Bonded labour is a system where creditors force debtors to repay debts through labour. The Act prohibits any person from making advances under, or in pursuance of, the bonded labour system. It also prohibits compelling a person to render bonded or forced labour. However, the practice continues till date, say activists.

A debt that cost a son

Sitting on a flat rock outside Reddy's house on the outskirts of Thurakapalle village, Ankamma cries softly. Thurakapalle is 8 km from Duttaluru town. A narrow muddy pavement leads to the village. The silence of the surroundings is broken by the crowing of roosters.

Reddy's house stands in the midst of a vast expanse of lemon orchards. Ankamma and her husband Prakash get paid ₹15,000 a month for taking care of Reddy's 12-acre orchard, tending to 10 buffaloes, and doing other odd jobs for him.

Ankamma and Prakash do not have a house. "This is home," she says, pointing to a small hut-like structure, perched precariously on four logs. The logs are covered on top by a tarpaulin sheet. There is just enough space for them to sleep.

When Reddy is around, Prakash and Ankamma sit on the ground. "They are Reddulu (Reddys). They are 'big' people," Ankamma says with a reverential tone. She believes that what happened was all her fault. "We will not leave Siva Reddy until our last breath. We had left him to work for Muthu and that is why this happened to us. From now on, we will be loyal to him."

Two years ago, Ankamma and Prakash went to work for Muthu after Ankamma's mother told her that he may pay more. Taking an advance of ₹15,000 from Muthu, they began taking his ducks for grazing. Though he promised them a salary of ₹24,000 a month, Muthu did not give them anything more than the advance amount.

The couple slept in the fields under the sky. They often stayed awake at night, fearing snakes and scorpions. They moved from place to place every week, foraging for feed. They offered to repay the debt in instalments, but Muthu refused.

Ankamma has three children from her previous marriage – Chenchu Krishna (15), Ravu Lakshmamma (12), and Venkatesh. When her first husband died last year, she and Prakash left for Guduru, near Tirupati district, for his final rites. When they did not return, an enraged Muthu went in search of them. He took Venkatesh away, saying the boy was 'collateral'.

"Everyone says we will get some cash (compensation)," says Ankamma. "But we will not demand anything except justice for my son."

The Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer - 2021 states that immediate financial assistance of up to ₹30,000 is guaranteed to individuals rescued from bonded labour. Once the accused is convicted, the aid can go up to ₹3 lakh, depending on the severity of the case.

Ravi Kumar, the administrative officer at the Revenue Divisional Officer's (RDO) office in Sullurpeta, says the Tirupati administration is considering providing a housing site and compensation to the family. Satyavedu falls under the purview of the Sullurpeta RDO.

Activists say the administration should also issue a 'release certificate' to Ankamma's family. "Release certificates can be issued only to those in bonded labour. Technically, only the boy was a bonded labourer. Since he is dead, the family is not eligible for the certificate," Kumar explains.

'Poor, unlettered, and fearful'

Andhra Pradesh is both a source and a destination State for bonded labour. "The problem is not as prevalent as it used to be, but many cases do not come to light these days. In addition to migrant labourers from Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, and Chhattisgarh, the most marginalised locals fall prey to the system," says Raavi Sunil Kumar, convenor of the Vetti Vimochana Coalition, a group of NGOs working on bonded labour issues. According to data compiled by the group, 402 people have been rescued from bonded labour in the State from January 2023 to date. Most of them, including Ankamma, belong to the Yanadi community.

A report from the National Commission for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes, published in 2008, says the Yanadis are one of the 59 Denotified Tribes and 60 Nomadic Tribes of Andhra Pradesh. As per the 2011 Census, there were more than 5 lakh Yanadis in the composite State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Noorbasha Babavali, a research assistant at the Centre for Study of Social Inclusion at Andhra University in Visakhapatnam, says the Yanadis are extremely poor. Only 35.35% of them are lettered. "They have been exploited as they don't know about the legal system. Their fear of society keeps them away from the mainstream. They don't own any assets and stay on the canal bunds and in hilly areas." Ankamma says she did not know that *vetti chakiri* (bonded labour) is illegal.

"Many Yanadis do not open up to strangers even if they are offered help," says Ch. Venkateswarlu, a Yanadi leader from Alluru, a village near Ongole in Prakasam district. "Unlike Ankamma, others do not share their troubles. They fear being beaten up by their employers."

He recalls another incident in which two bonded labourers died of electrocution while working in a field in Palnadu district. "Though this happened a few months ago, the labourers' families still work as bonded labourers," he says.

Katti Kotaiah, 56, who also belongs to the Yanadi community, escaped the clutches of his employer at Chilakaluripeta town. Kotaiah and his wife Katti Gangamma (in the centre), depend on fishing for their livelihood these days. G.N. RAO

Kotaiah's escape

Katti Kotaiah, 56, who also belongs to the Yanadi community, escaped the clutches of his employer at Chilakaluripeta town.

Kotaiah lives in a Yanadi colony at Alluru, a village near the Kothapatnam beach in Prakasam district. About 400 Yanadis live in the colony. At least 10 members live in one hut.

Like Ankamma, Kotaiah blames himself for what happened. "It was my fault that I accepted a loan of ₹10,000 from a creditor in Chilakaluripeta in Palnadu district. At the time, we had no work, no food, and no access to drinking water. So, I took the money," he says.

To repay that amount, his family of seven, including three children, had to work as bonded labourers for around 20 years. "We set out to work when my son's three children were toddlers. Now they are between 16 and 20," he says. By the time of their release last year, that debt of ₹1,500 had risen to ₹15 lakh. The family was sold more than thrice, and worked as bonded labourers under different employers, says Kotaiah.

He says their job was to cut Subabul logs, used primarily in the pulp and paper industry. He and his wife cut two tonnes of logs every day. "In a week, if we cut 14 tonnes, we would get ₹1,500," he says. As per current rates, a worker is supposed to get around ₹500 for cutting one tonne.

"These jobs were always fine in the first five months. Then, our employers would not give us wages daily. They would give us just ₹1,000 a week. We had to work even when we fell sick. They restricted our movements," he says.

Kotaiah says a policeman asked him to leave the employer during the pandemic. "But I told him that I owed my employer ₹2 lakh." he says. Kotaiah sold his house, received as part of a government scheme, for ₹1 lakh to clear the debt.

It was only when Kotaiah's friend died that he decided to leave. "We told our employer that we have to vote in the election (June 2024). He let us go. We never went back, despite warnings." This year, too, the employer created a ruckus in Alluru demanding that they all come back, he recalls. District officials of Prakasam intervened and gave the family protection and release certificates.

Venkateswarlu says that while the government hands out release certificates to survivors, the rehabilitation takes place so late in some cases that a few people, who find themselves without land and work after their release from bonded labour, go back to their old employers.

Today, Kotaiah lives in a spacious hut with a sofa, cot, and cooler. He says civil society members got him these necessities. Kotaiah sells fish for a living. "Some days, I get ₹200 and some days I make ₹400. Today I got only ₹100. But at least no one is torturing us," he says.

No action plan in place

"Apart from duck-rearing units, bonded labour cases are reported from areas where Subabul is grown extensively," says Ramesh, who belongs to the Rural Organisation for Poverty Eradication Services, a registered NGO.

In duck-rearing units, children are mostly chosen as labourers. "One has to be agile and quick to stop the ducks from escaping. Duck farmers, mostly Yerukulas (another Scheduled Tribe community), hire Yanadis to work for them. The conditions are harsh, with no electricity and no proper food," says Ramesh.

In his report 'Bonded Labour in India: Its Incidence and Pattern', former Jawaharlal Nehru University professor Ravi S. Srivastava says that the Supreme Court directed all the States to collect information on the prevalence of bonded labour in India. The survey was held in 1996. No cases were identified in Andhra Pradesh. However, the government subsequently identified and released 37,988 bonded labourers till 2004.

"Since then, no systematic survey has been carried out. Bonded labour persists both in the agricultural and non-agricultural sector, although vestiges of hereditary bondage only exist in traditional sectors," he says.

Of the 402 people who have been rescued in the past two years by the Vetti Vimochana Coalition, members say FIRs have been booked only in seven cases. "There is no Standard Operating Procedure or State action plan for the identification, rescue and rehabilitation of bonded labourers in Andhra Pradesh. On the other hand, States such as Tamil Nadu and Delhi have a robust system in place," explains Kumar.

While the Bonded Labour Act provides for punishment for up to three years, there is no data on how many people have been punished. The law mandates a district-level vigilance and monitoring committee to be in place. "This was formed in Prakasam only last year," Kumar says. Officials of the Revenue, Tribal Welfare, Social Welfare, and Labour Departments say they are not sure which of them is responsible for enforcing the Act.

"It is important to identify bonded labour as an organised crime," says Venkateswarlu. "The government should have a nodal department to deal with pre- and post-rescue operations. It should also have a toll-free number for people in distress. If there had been one, Ankamma would not have lost her son."

> In addition to migrant labourers from Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, and Chhattisgarh, the most marginalised locals fall prey to the system
>
> **RAAVI SUNIL KUMAR**
> Convenor of the Vetti Vimochana Coalition

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From Page One

GDP growth at 6.5%, slowest since pandemic

The 'Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry & Fishing' sector grew 5.4% in Q4 of the year, up from 0.9% in Q4 of 2023-24. This helped propel the full year's growth for the sector to 4.6% in 2024-25, up from 2.7% in 2023-24.

The manufacturing sector's growth stood at 4.8% in Q4 of FY25, the second fastest quarterly growth in the year, on a high base of 11.3% in Q4 of the previous year. The sector grew 4.5% in the full financial year 2024-25, down from 12.3% in 2023-24. The construction sector returned to double-digit growth of 10.8% in the fourth quarter, the fastest in the year, and faster than the 8.7% seen in Q4 of 2023-24. The sector's full-year growth stood at 9.4% in 2024-25, down from 10.4% in 2023-24.

Growth in the tertiary sector – a composite of all the services sectors – stood at 7.3% in Q4, in line with the growth in Q2 (7.2%) and Q3 (7.4%). Growth in Q4, however, was slower than the 7.8% seen in the fourth quarter of 2023-24. In the full year 2024-25, the tertiary sector grew at 7.2%, lower than the 9% in the previous year.

The data released on Friday also showed that growth in household consumption quickened to 7.2% in 2024-25 from 5.6% in the previous year.

Gross Fixed Capital Formation, a measure of asset creation by the public and private sector, saw growth slowing to 7.1% in 2024-25 from 8.8% in 2023-24. This is despite growth in this spending quickening to a six-quarter high of 9.4% in Q4.

Shah pledges help for shell-hit areas in J&K

"It's clear any aggression or attack on civilians or on borders will be responded to strongly and forcefully. Our army demonstrated it," he said.

Praising the alertness and dedication shown by the Border Security Forces (BSF) during the three-day military confrontation, Mr. Shah said, "It was evident from the fact that 118 Pakistani posts were destroyed or damaged in minimum time by the BSF selectively. It will take the enemy four or five years to rebuild them."

Admitting that recent events impacting the development process in J&K, Mr. Shah said, "J&K's path of development may have slowed down for a short time. It will resume its pace soon and no one can hinder J&K's development," he added.

Mr. Shah expressed his indignation over the shelling of residential areas and on religious places, including a temple, a gurdwara and a madrasa in Poonch, by Pakistan.

He then handed over job letters to the kin of civilians who died in Pakistani shelling in Poonch and promised to work out a comprehensive package for the people affected.

Give up Azhar, Saeed before talks: Rajnath

Addressing officers and sailors onboard the country's first indigenous aircraft carrier, Mr. Singh said the Pakistani Navy had not ventured out during the operation, asserting that had it done so, it "would have faced the consequences."

Stating that anti-India activities were being conducted openly from Pakistani soil, he said India was "free" to carry out operations against terrorists across the border and at sea. "Today, the whole world is acknowledging India's right to protect its citizens against terrorism," he said, urging Pakistan to dismantle the "nursery of terrorism operating on its soil with its own hands".

Speaking on the extradition of Tahawwur Rana, an accused in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, the Minister reiterated India's position on Saeed and Azhar. "Both of them are not only in India's list of 'Most Wanted Terrorists', they are also UN-designated terrorists... Hafiz Saeed is also guilty of the Mumbai attacks, and justice must be done for his crime," he said.

Responding to Pakistan's repeated calls for dialogue, Mr. Singh said, "If Pakistan is serious about talks, it should hand over terrorists like Saeed and Azhar to India so that justice is served."

Three men get life term for murder of Ankita Bhandari

The victim was a receptionist at a hotel owned by one of the accused, Pulkit Arya, son of former BJP leader Vinod Arya; victim's father aggrieved over court deciding against the death penalty

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

A Sessions Court in Uttarakhand's Kotdwar on Friday awarded life imprisonment to three men, including Pulkit Arya, son of expelled BJP leader Vinod Arya, for the murder of 19-year-old Ankita Bhandari, who had worked as a receptionist at a hotel owned by the accused.

According to the prosecution and the police, she had refused to provide "extra services" to a "VIP guest" at the hotel in Pauri Garhwal, and the accused, along with two accomplices, murdered her by pushing her into a canal.

Mr. Vinod Arya had been Minister of State under the previous BJP government headed by Trivendra Singh Rawat.

Ankita had started working soon after finishing Class 12 to support her father, Virendra Bhandari, a security guard. She was paid ₹10,000 a month for the job.

Police try to stop Congress workers protesting near the court during the hearing on the 2022 murder case, in Kotdwar on Friday. PTI

She went missing on the night of September 18, 2022, and her father was informed of the same by hotel staff the next day.

Mr. Bhandari had alleged that he had to run from pillar to post to get an FIR registered in the case, which was initially taken up by the revenue police. Her body was found six days later in a canal.

The murder sparked outrage and protests across the State, prompting the Uttarakhand government to form a special investigation team (SIT) to investigate the case. After a months-long investigation, the SIT filed a 500-page chargesheet in the matter.

In the order pronounced on May 30, the Additional District and Sessions Judge held Arya and his two aides, Saurabh Bhaskar and Ankit Gupta, guilty of murder, suppression of evidence, molestation and outraging the modesty of a woman, and immoral trafficking.

The court awarded the trio life imprisonment and a collective fine of ₹4 lakh, which will be given to the parents of the deceased.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, special public prosecutor Avneesh Negi said that out of 97 witnesses listed in the police's chargesheet, 47 were examined in the court during the trial that commenced in December 2022 and lasted over two years.

Ankita's father was upset over the court's decision not to consider the case as "rare of the rarest" and give the death penalty to the accused.

"My daughter decided to leave home just to support me. This is what happens to girls who leave homes to chase their dreams. This is a rare case which shook the conscience of the people and should have been considered as such," said Mr. Bhandari.

He also alleged that the State government had not fulfilled its promise of naming a nursing college after Ankita and providing a government job to her brother.

SC flags YouTuber's 'scandalous' remarks against senior judge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Free speech is subject to reasonable restrictions, says CJI B.R. Gavai.

The Supreme Court on Friday took *suo motu* cognisance of "scandalous, contemptuous and defamatory" remarks made by Ajay Shukla, through his YouTube channel, about a senior judge of the top court.

A three-judge Bench of Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, Justice A.G. Masih and Justice A.S. Chandurkar said in a short order that such remarks brought the institution of judiciary into disrepute.

Chief Justice Gavai said free speech was subject to reasonable restrictions, and making defamatory and contemptuous comments about a sitting Supreme Court judge cannot be protected in the name of freedom of expression.

Attorney General R. Venkataramani and Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta were present in the court room.

Mr. Mehta said the comments were grave in nature and he was glad the court had taken cognisance of them. It was he who suggested to the Bench to additionally describe Mr. Shukla's comments as "defamatory and contemptuous".

The court directed the "taking down" of the social media post with immediate effect.

Mr. Shukla's YouTube channel had recently posted a video on Supreme Court judge, Justice Bela M. Trivedi.

The court issued notice to Mr. Shukla, editor-in-chief of Varprad Media Private Ltd, a digital channel hosted on YouTube.

The Bench scheduled the *suo motu* contempt case after the vacations, possibly in July.

Amid protests, Home Secretary may visit Manipur next week

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Govind Mohan

Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan is likely to visit Manipur next week, on June 2 and June 3, in the wake of fresh protests and a "civil disobedience" call by Meitei groups in the northeastern State over the May 20 incident in Gwaltabi. On that day, security forces allegedly tried to cover the word 'Manipur' on a State transport bus that was ferrying journalists to the hill district of Ukhrul for the Shirui Lily festival.

After arriving in Imphal, the Home Secretary is likely to visit the Kuki-Zo areas in Churachandpur and Kangpokpi to review relief and rehabilitation work and the overall security scenario in the State, officials said.

In an unprecedented turn of events, Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla, upon his arrival from Delhi on May 29, had to take a helicopter for the seven-kilometre journey from Imphal Airport to Raj Bhavan as protesters swarmed the roads seeking his apology for the Gwaltabi incident.

The Coordination Committee for Manipur Integrity (COCOMI), an Imphal-based Meitei civil society group, has called for the removal of all top government officials in the State.

Vehicle falls into river in Sikkim, Odisha BJP leader among 9 missing

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI/BHUBANESWAR

A Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader from Odisha was among nine people reported missing in Sikkim after a tourist vehicle they were travelling in went off the road and fell into the Teesta river late Thursday evening.

The vehicle fell about 1,000 ft., at a place between Chungthang and Munshithang along the Chungthang-Lachen road in northern Sikkim's Mangan district.

Two groups of tourists from Odisha and West Bengal reportedly hired the vehicle, which had 11 occupants, including the driver and Itishree Jena, the Odisha State secretary of the BJP Mahila Morcha.

"Out of the 11 occupants, two have been rescued and referred to STNM Hospital in Gangtok, after preliminary treatment at the Chungthang Field Hospital. Search is still on for the remaining nine persons," an official statement said.

ITBP personnel carry an injured person during a rescue operation in the Teesta river in north Sikkim on Thursday. PTI

Mangan's Superintendent of Police, Sonam Detchu Bhutia, said that locals were helping rescue workers to find the missing passengers and recover the vehicle. "We spotted a body in the middle of the river near a rock, but we have not been able to reach the spot because the river is swollen and its current is very strong. The terrain is too steep for recovery vehicles to reach," he told *The Hindu*.

"In response to the accident, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Majhi has dispatched a special team to Sikkim," a Bhubaneswar-based BJP leader said.

Four killed as heavy rain continues in the northeast

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Four persons were killed in rain-related disasters in the northeastern States.

One person died after a retaining wall collapsed in heavy rain in the Thuampui area in Mizoram's capital Aizawl on Friday morning, rescue officials said.

In Nagaland, a rockfall on the Dimapur-Kohima highway resulted in the death of a truck driver.

In Meghalaya's East Khasi Hills district, one woman died in a landslide, while a man drowned in the Krot river as he tried to cross it.

Bank frauds growing under Modi rule: Kharge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Criticising Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the rising cases of bank frauds in the last 11 years, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday said "fraud and fakery" runs in the veins of his government.

"In the 11 years of Modi government, there have been bank frauds worth Rs. 6,36,992 crore, which is an increase of 416 per cent. Even after demonetisation, the number of fake Rs. 500 notes increased by 291 per cent in the last 6 years. This year it is the highest," he wrote on X.

Taking a swipe at the Prime Minister for his comment that 'sindoor' runs in his veins, the Congress chief said, "Modi Ji, we don't know what is in your veins, but it is certain that your government definitely has fraud and fakery in its veins!"

Villagers up in arms against dam projects in Arunachal Pradesh

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

After the dam in the Siang River belt, projects on the Dri and Lohit rivers now face opposition

An intense opposition to a proposed mega-dam in the Siang River belt has set off a chain of protests against other hydropower projects in Arunachal Pradesh.

A society representing several villages wrote to the Dibang Valley district authorities on May 29, voicing its "strong and reasoned objection" to the 400 megawatt Mihundo (Mihumdon) Hydroelectric Project proposed on the Dri River. Scheduled to be commissioned in 2026, this run-of-the-river project was assigned to the Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam.

The Ekhomey Mowo Welfare Society, based in Anini, said the project was illegal as the mandatory free, prior, and informed consent was not obtained from the Gram Sabha or the residents of Angrim Valley who would be affected.

Opposition to the Dri River project came a day after residents of the remote Nukung and Mla villages voiced their resistance to the proposed 1200 MW Kalai-II Hydroelectric Project on the Lohit River in Anjaw during a social impact assessment review.

According to the assessment, Nukung and Mla villages would be severely affected by the project. In a letter to the Anjaw Deputy Commissioner, the Nukung Welfare Society said the project was unacceptable to the indigenous communities in the area. Villagers said the potential submergence of sacred Mishmi tribal cultural and spiritual sites by the dam was of particular concern.

Working closely with India on defence, security matters: New Zealand Deputy PM

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

In the current era of "great uncertainty", New Zealand has started working "more closely" with India in the fields of defence and security, said Winston Peters, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand here on Friday.

Speaking at an event, Mr. Peters gave an overview of his country's foreign policy, and said that freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific region is "crucial" for New Zealand.

"During a time of great uncertainty, instability and disorder, we have taken steps to work more closely on matters of defence and security with India. A recently signed Defence Cooperation Arrangement will facilitate closer links between our militaries," Mr. Peters said, speaking at a fireside chat organised by the Ananta Aspen Centre.

Winston Peters

Mr. Peters, who was among the global leaders who had joined India in condoling the loss of lives in the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, said that security cooperation between the two sides is increasing. "The New Zealand Navy is leading Combined Task Force 150, charged with securing trade routes and countering terrorism, smuggling, and piracy in the Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden," he added.

To deal with the uncertain and unpredictable conditions in the fields of security and economy, New Zealand has "reset" its foreign policy and is "significantly increasing" its "focus and resources" on South and Southeast Asia, Mr. Peters said. Describing India as a "geopolitical giant", he said that India has emerged as an "indispensable security actor in both regional and global spheres. In the prevailing international circumstances, he argued in favour of giving space to diplomacy.

"Since war and instability is everyone's calamity, diplomacy is the business of us all. We have observed that at this moment in time the ability to talk with, rather than at, each other has never been more needed," Mr. Peters said, arguing in favour of safeguarding rights of countries like New Zealand that he described as a "small state".

I turned promise into action: Modi in Bihar

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

On the second day of his Bihar visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, addressing a large public meeting at Bikramganj in Rohtas district on Friday, said he had returned to the State after "fulfilling his promise" made in the aftermath of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam.

On April 24, two days after the April 22 attack which claimed 26 lives, Mr. Modi had addressed a rally in Jhanjharpur, Madhubani district, where he pledged that the terrorists and their protectors would be "reduced to rubble" and punished "beyond their imagination".

"I've come to Bihar again after fulfilling my words," said the PM, as the crowd at the Bikramganj rally responded with loud cheers. Referring to the success of Operation Sindoor carried out by the Indian armed forces, Mr. Modi said, "Pakistan and the world have seen India's power... it was just one arrow from the country's quiver... our fight is against terrorism."

'India will have 1 billion Internet users by this fiscal year'

The BharatNet investments in rural and remote connectivity are the largest in the world, says Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region; almost 2.14 lakh gram panchayats were connected in the first phase and the next phase is about connecting another 2.64 lakh gram panchayats, he says, adding that a central network operating hub will be put in place for maintenance

INTERVIEW

Jyotiraditya Scindia

Varghese K. George
Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

With increasing data usage, the Internet market has grown from around 250 million to 974 million subscribers, says Jyotiraditya Scindia, Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region (DONER). Laying stress on the role of innovation and investment, Mr. Scindia discusses the potential of India's telecom industry and the way ahead for improving connectivity. Edited excerpts:

This year's theme for the India Mobile Congress (IMC) is 'Innovate to Transform'. What's the message here for the domestic telecom industry?

India has already proven itself to be the second largest telecom market in the world. In the last 11 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government, the mobile market grew from roughly 1 billion to 1.2 billion customers; we have also hugely grown data usage and the Internet market from around 250 million to 974 million Internet subscribers. We should be able to hit one billion Internet users within the first half of next year, or even within this fiscal year.

Calling prices have gone from 50 paise to 0.003 paise a minute; and data has gone from ₹287 to ₹9 a GB. We are today the cheapest data market in the world.

With such a large market, it is important for India to start pioneering the product space and therefore IMC's theme this year of 'Innovate to Transform' very much ties in with its theme last year, 'The Future is Now'. Many products are also now being made in India.

We have gone from importing 80% of our mobile phone requirements to becoming a huge exporter of about ₹1.75 lakh crore worth of mobile phones. The Bharat 6G Alliance that we've put together is working on contributing a minimum 10% of patents to the world of 6G. And it is our hope that in this year's IMC, we will have over 150,000 visitors from 150 countries.

With telecom equipment, homegrown technologies like OpenRAN and 5Gi were designed but their use in networks was not widespread.

Which is why, in the Production-Linked Incentive Scheme – which has been tremendously successful, with over ₹4,000 crore of investment and ₹80,000 crore in revenue, close to ₹16,000 crore of exports, 25,000 jobs created, it's been a runaway success – we introduced last year, a 1% design-led incentive. Therefore, I want to design, produce and export in India.

We hear a lot about Starlink and satellite communications. What else is being done in the long term plan for improving terrestrial connectivity in remote areas?

As far as BharatNet is concerned, in the first phase,

PTI

we laid almost 7 lakh kilometres of fibre optic cables. We connected almost 2.14 lakh gram panchayats. We're now working on BharatNet II.

Mind you, this is the largest public sector investment in connectivity to the grassroots level in the world, of $16.9 billion (₹1.39 lakh crore).

What we're doing in BharatNet II is connecting the balance 2.64 lakh gram panchayats. The total number of villages in India is about 6.5 lakh, of which 2.64 lakh are gram panchayats. Along with that, we have put together many new systems in BharatNet II which were not prevalent in BharatNet I.

These include: using Multiprotocol Label Switching routers instead of Gigabit Passive Optical Network routers; changing the network topology to insulate villages from disconnection due to a single cut; the project implementation agencies have been mandated to maintain the network for 10 years after building it; we're putting together a central network operating centre, to monitor and maintain the network throughout the country; and we are also going to put in place independent engineers to ensure checks and balances.

So it's a much more robust system that we're trying to put in place.

Vodafone Idea Ltd. (VIL) has been suffering financially for multiple quarters. They have also had a setback at the Supreme Court, which refused to revise the calculation for their Adjusted Gross Revenue dues. To what extent is the government willing to step in and make sure that there are at least three private operators in the telecom market?

We have three private operators and one state-owned operator. I think that's a very healthy environment. Having said that, I think each company has to manage its own profit and loss (P&L) and balance sheet. We have done an equity conversion of almost ₹37,000 crore with VIL. The government now holds 49%. We don't intend to increase that stake above 49% at any point in the future.

On the Department of Posts: what impact has the Post Office Act, 2023 had on modernising India Post?

The Indian postal department is one of the most robust, largest distribution and logistics networks of any organisation – and I'm weighing my words – in the world. And in the modern day, to be able to optimise its service delivery to a logistics organisation, the amendment to the Post Office Act empowers us to provide that flexibility to our Department, to be able to serve new markets, niche or otherwise.

A lot of the new changes that we are being able to put in place of making it a comprehensive service provider; not only mail, but postal life insurance, post office savings bank, and the India Post Payments Bank – which is making profits three years early.

We're thinking of coming up with a digital access code for every single latitude and longitude in the country.

Today, the postal department is empowered to be able to deliver all those capabilities by the amendments to the Act.

(For full interview, visit newsth.live/scindiaspeaks)

Operation Sindoor showed the world India's indigenous defence capabilities, says Modi

Mayank Kumar
LUCKNOW

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for development projects worth approximately ₹47,600 crore during his visit to Kanpur.

Addressing a public function at the Chandrashekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Mr. Modi said Uttar Pradesh was swiftly moving towards becoming a "*Uttam Pradesh* [excellent State]", and that the new projects would provide fresh impetus to the State's development. Paying tribute to Shubham Dwivedi, a Kanpur native who was killed in the terror attack in Pahalgam, Mr. Modi said, "All of us deeply felt the pain, suffering, anger and collective anguish over the barbaric terror attack. This collective unity led to Operation Sindoor, where terrorist hideouts in Pakistan were destroyed, and the Pakistani military was forced to plead for an end to the conflict."

Big boost: Narendra Modi, Yogi Adityanath, and others during the launch of development projects in Kanpur. SANDEEP SAXENA

'Three principles'

Reiterating that "Operation Sindoor is not yet over", the Prime Minister outlined the country's three guiding principles in its fight against terrorism. "India will deliver a decisive response to every terrorist attack, Indian armed forces will determine timing, method, and conditions of India's response, and India will no longer be intimidated by nuclear threats, nor will it make decisions based on such warnings. The country will view both the masterminds of terrorism and the governments that shelter them in the same light."

Referring to indigenous capabilities, he added, "Operation Sindoor showcased India's indigenous defence capabilities and the strength of 'Make in India' to the world."

Among the infrastructure projects inaugurated was the Chunniganj Metro Station to Kanpur Central Metro Station section of the Kanpur Metro Rail Project, worth over ₹2,120 crore.

Panel looking to pursue quota for Muslim OBCs in AMU, Jamia

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

A parliamentary panel on the welfare of Other Backward Classes will meet with officials of the Education Ministry and representatives of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) in June over measures taken by them to secure representation of OBCs in admissions and employment.

The meeting schedule for the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of OBCs noted that on June 13, the above-mentioned representatives of the Union Ministry and the minority institutions will be expected to give "evidence" on the measures they have taken to secure the representation of OBCs in their universities, both in admissions and employment, along with measures taken for their welfare.

Sources aware of the agenda for the meeting have told *The Hindu* that the parliamentary panel intends to pursue a quota for Muslim OBC communities within these minority institutions. "The panel understands that these are minority institutions that do not provide for quotas for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and OBCs. But the question that the committee feels the need to ask is why these institutions do not have a specific quota for Muslims who fall under the OBC socio-economic category," a member of the panel told *The Hindu*.

Currently, the AMU has no reservation policy for admissions or employments based on religion or socio-economic category. JMI has a reservation policy for admissions under which a 10% quota is reserved for Muslim OBCs and STs but does not have a policy for SCs, STs and OBCs in employment as per a Parliament reply.

Chief of Defence Staff, top Pakistani General to attend conference in Singapore

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Barely weeks after the ceasefire between the two militaries following Operation Sindoor, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan and Pakistan's Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Shamshad Mirza will address parallel sessions at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on Saturday.

While the military leaders are not expected to meet, the four-day conflict that broke out when India launched strikes on terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan, is likely to be one of the issues discussed at the conference, which is hosted annually by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies. French President Emmanuel Macron gave a keynote address on Friday. U.S. Defense Secretary Peter Hegseth and Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim will address the conference on Saturday.

General Chauhan will speak along with military chiefs from Brazil, Germany, and Ukraine, and the chief of the U.S.'s Indo-Pacific Command at a panel on "Defence Innovation Solutions for Future Challenges", where the development and use of drone warfare, cyberware, and artificial intelligence are likely to be discussed.

General Anil Chauhan

In a simultaneous session, General Mirza will be part of a panel with military counterparts and officials from Canada, Fiji, and the Pacific Islands Forum, speaking about "Regional Crisis Management Mechanisms".

In an interview to Reuters on the sidelines of the conference, General Mirza said that troop levels at the border had "almost come back" to the situation prior to the Pahalgam terror attack. "This [conflict] lowers the threshold between two countries who are contiguous nuclear powers," General Mirza was quoted as saying in the interview. "In the future, it will not be restricted to the disputed territory. It would come down to [the] whole of India and [the] whole of Pakistan," he said, calling the situation a "dangerous trend" and adding that Pakistan is "open to dialogue" with India.

The External Affairs Ministry and the Defence Ministry did not comment on the interview. On Thursday, however, the External Affairs Ministry had rejected Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's suggestion of talks, saying that India would only talk to Pakistan about the return of wanted terrorists and Pakistani troops vacating Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, and no other talks are possible until Pakistan stops supporting terror groups on its territory. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in May that any terrorist attack in future would be seen as an "act of war" that India would respond to.

U.S.'s new ambitions

Mr. Hegseth's speech on the U.S.'s "new ambitions" for Indo-Pacific security will also be closely watched at the conference that brings U.S. and Chinese defence officials on the same platform. The Trump administration's vision for the Quad Summit that India is hosting this year will be significant.

(With inputs from Devesh K. Pandey)

BJP criticises Cong. remarks on Operation Sindoor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP criticised the Congress on Friday for "demanding proof" of Operation Sindoor and accused the Opposition of making "frustrated attempts to demoralise the armed forces".

At a press conference, BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra condemned senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh's remarks and stated that the MPs visiting foreign countries were not "roaming around" but were representing India's resolve and anti-terror policy with great strength on global platforms.

The BJP leader said U.S. military analyst John Spencer, in his article, stated that the weapons Pakistan relied on, which were manufactured by China, proved "completely ineffective". "Pakistan fought as a proxy for China, but India, relying on indigenous technology, not only won this war but also demonstrated to the world that India is now a self-reliant military power," said Mr. Patra, asserting that a new positive perception about India was emerging across various countries worldwide under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

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ADVT. NO. AVNLCO/HR/2025/04
ENGAGEMENT OF RETIRED EXPERTS/ADVISORS/CONSULTANTS

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A BG-BGE

INBRIEF

Five workers killed in blast at firecracker unit in Punjab

Five people were killed and 30 injured in a blast at a firecracker manufacturing and packaging unit near a village in Lambi in Punjab's Sri Muktsar Sahib district on Friday. The injured were taken to hospitals, including AIIMS Bathinda, and most of them were stated to be out of danger, the police said. The blast occurred in one of the rooms in the manufacturing unit, leading to the collapse of the roof and other parts of the two-storey building. It appears that the explosion was caused by materials used in the making of firecrackers, though the exact cause can be ascertained after investigations and forensic examinations, the police added. PTI

Three more firms get GPU access under IndiaAI Mission

Three firms – Gurugram-based Soket AI, Delhi-based Gan.AI, and Bengaluru-based Gnani.ai – have been selected in the IndiaAI Mission's ongoing drive to facilitate the development of an indigenous foundational AI large language model (LLM). "Like Sarvam AI" – which was selected earlier this year as the first such firm – "these three teams also have a very big target in front of them," IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said. By being selected, these firms will get access to the Common Compute facility, giving them access to thousands of graphics processing units (GPUs) on which AI models are trained and deployed.

Centre asks States to raise enrolment in govt. schools

Education Ministry flags increasing trend of students choosing private schools; it asks States such as Uttarakhand, Telangana, T.N. and A.P. to identify the root cause and take remedial measures

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Flagging a "disturbing trend" of students choosing private schools over government schools in at least 11 States and Union Territories, including Uttarakhand, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh, the Union Education Ministry has asked these States to take "remedial steps" to reverse the trend.

The issue was pointed out to individual States in Project Approval Board (PAB) meetings held in March and April this year to consider the Annual Work Plan and Budget under the Samagra Shiksha scheme for 2025-26.

In Telangana, for instance, the PAB meeting minutes note that as per the Unified District Information System for Education plus (UDISE+) 2023-24 data, out of 42,901 schools in the State, 70% (30,022) are government schools and 28.26% (12,126) are unaided schools. "Total enrolment in government schools is only 38.11% (27.8 lakh) as compared to 60.75% (44.31 lakh) enrolment in unaided schools," the minutes note.

Student exodus: Centre says that despite spending large amount of money, govt. school enrolment is seeing a steady drop. AFP

School Education Secretary Sanjay Kumar expressed his concerns that in spite of spending a large amount of money, students are moving away from government schools. He suggested that States should make a sincere analysis of the root cause so as to take remedial steps and reverse this trend.

'Govt. school brand'

A similar trend was observed in Uttarakhand, where enrolment in unaided schools has steadily increased except for the pandemic period of 2021-22. In Uttarakhand, the minutes note, as per UDISE+ 2023-24, out of 22,551 schools in the State, 71.84% (16, 201) are government schools and 23.29% (5252) are unaided schools. "However, total enrolment in government schools is only 36.68% (8.7 lakh) as compared to 54.39% (12.90 lakh) enrolment in unaided schools," the minutes state.

In Tamil Nadu, the Education Ministry observed that as per UDISE+ 2023-24, 64% of government schools in the State have 37% enrolment whereas 21% of unaided school have 46% enrolment. "In this regard, State was urged to build the government school brand so as to increase enrolment and make best use of the available resources," the minutes state.

In Andhra Pradesh, the UDISE+ 2023-24 data show that out of 61,373 schools in the State, 45,000 (73.32%) are government schools and 15,232 (24.82%) are unaided schools. "However, total enrolment in government schools is 46.33% (40.5 lakh) as compared to 52.09% (45.53 lakh) enrolment in unaided schools. Enrolment trend during 2021-22 to 2023-24 suggests that enrolment in unaided schools is steadily increasing," the minutes state.

In Maharashtra, the State's Principal Secretary for Education & Sports attributed the reduction in enrolment in government and aided schools, from over 1.63 crore students in 2018-19 to a little over 1.5 crore in 2023-24, to a data cleansing exercise, using Aadhaar verification.

Kerala's Principal Secretary for Education said a similar exercise had been done there as well, when concerns were raised about the reduction of students in government and aided schools, from close to 46.37 lakh in 2022-23 to 45.50 lakh in 2023-24.

Centre grants nod to Maharashtra CM's Relief Fund to receive foreign donations

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry has granted the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010, registration to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund of Maharashtra, enabling it to receive foreign donations for "social" programmes.

This is the first time that a State government relief body has been granted permission to receive foreign funds under the Act to supplement financial assistance to those affected by natural calamities, major accidents, communal riots, terrorist attacks or those in need of medical and educational help. The relief funds of State governments usually run on domestic donations and contributions.

In 2018, India had declined foreign aid for Kerala flood relief.

The Maharashtra CMRF is registered as a Trust under the Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950, its website said. It is managed by the State of Maharashtra under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister, who exercises overall supervision and control of the funds.

In 2018, India had declined foreign aid for Kerala flood relief

According to a tender floated in February, the average number of transactions handled by the CMRF are between 1 lakh and 1.5 lakh per year.

PM CARES Fund

The Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM CARES) - set up in March 2020 to tackle distress situations such as that posed by the COVID-19 pandemic - was exempted from the FCRA provisions, and a "separate account for receiving foreign donations" was opened.

The Home Ministry regulates foreign donations through the FCRA to ensure that such funds do not adversely affect country's internal security. It is compulsory to register under the Act, first enacted in 1976, if an association, group, or NGO intends to receive foreign donations. The 1976 Act was repealed and replaced with a new legislation in 2010. It was further amended in 2020.

SC gets three new judges, reaches full strength of 34

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court got three new judges on Friday. Justices N.V. Anjaria, Vijay Bishnoi, and A.S. Chandurkar were sworn in by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai.

With this, the number of judges of the court has reached its sanctioned strength of 34. This will continue until the retirement of Justice Bela M. Trivedi on June 9.

Justices Anjaria, Bishnoi, and Chandurkar were welcomed with warm handshakes by Chief Justice Gavai after they took their oath of office. Justice Bishnoi took the oath of office in Hindi.

The Collegium had recommended their names on May 26. The government approved them on Thursday.

Conduct NEET-PG in one shift; make necessary arrangements, directs SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday directed that the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Post Graduate (NEET-PG) 2025 examination, scheduled on June 15, must be conducted in a single shift instead of two shifts.

"We direct that necessary arrangements be made for holding the NEET-PG 2025 examination in one shift, duly ensuring that complete transparency is maintained and secure centres are identified and commissioned," a three-judge Bench headed by Justice Vikram Nath directed.

The Bench, also comprising Justices Sanjay Kumar and N.V. Anjaria, said holding the examination in two shifts would risk "arbitrariness".

"Holding the examination in two shifts would invariably enable arbitrariness and not entail at-par evaluation of the comparative merit of the candidates who take the examinations. No two question papers can ever be said to be at an identical level of difficulty or ease. There is bound to be a variation. Normalisation may be applied and adopted in exceptional circumstances but not in a routine manner year after year, especially when the number of candidates is not unduly large, as is the case presently," the Bench observed.

Supreme Court says holding the exam in two shifts would lead to arbitrariness.

The Bench passed the order while hearing a plea challenging a notification on holding the NEET-PG 2025 examination in two shifts. The petition filed by a group of students said the holding of NEET-PG in two shifts would lead to an uneven playing field for candidates, as two question papers could never be of the same standard and level of difficulty.

Exam body stand

The National Board of Examination in Medical Sciences and other authorities reasoned that the exam was held in two shifts owing to the fact that the number of candidates appearing were "too large", making it difficult for the examining body to identify sufficient number of secure centres to hold the examination in one shift.

Secondly, the authorities had contended that holding the examination in one shift would be an open invitation for unscrupulous elements to get involved and indulge in malpractices. Finally, they argued that finding the required number of secure centres was a time-consuming exercise, delaying the conduct of the exam and completion of the admission process.

However, the top court rejected all these arguments of the exam authorities.

"We are not ready to accept that in the entire country, considering the technological advancements we have achieved, the examining body cannot find sufficient number of centres to hold the examination in one shift," the court responded.

IMA condemns proposal for integrated MBBS-BAMS course, calls it 'unscientific'

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) on Friday condemned the proposed introduction of an integrated course combining MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) and BAMS (Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery) programmes at the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Puducherry.

Calling the move "unfortunate", it said this "unscientific mixing of various systems of medicines will not benefit doctors or patients".

The Union government had earlier announced plans to integrate modern medicine and Ayurvedic medicine under one academic curriculum, with a new integrated medical programme expected to be launched at the premier healthcare institute in Puducherry.

"It is unfortunate that the Union government seems to have decided to go ahead with its plans to unscientifically mix systems of medicine. Reports indicate that the first integrative course mixing MBBS and BAMS would be started in the premier institution of JIPMER, Pondicherry," said the IMA in a statement.

The MBBS and BAMS are currently offered as two separate five-and-a-half-year programmes.

The IMA said it had pointed out several times that mixing of "incompatible systems" was an "irreversible catastrophe".

It appealed to qualified Ayurvedic physicians to defend their system, warning that "mixopathy takes away the right of the patient to choose care of his/her choice".

"Let all systems retain their pristine purity. Refrain from producing hybrid doctors who will be only qualified quacks," said the IMA.

It said India has seen life expectancy grow from 32 years in 1947 to 70.8 years in 2025 because of vaccines and access to modern healthcare.

The association also cited mixing of medicine systems in China and said the move had failed there.

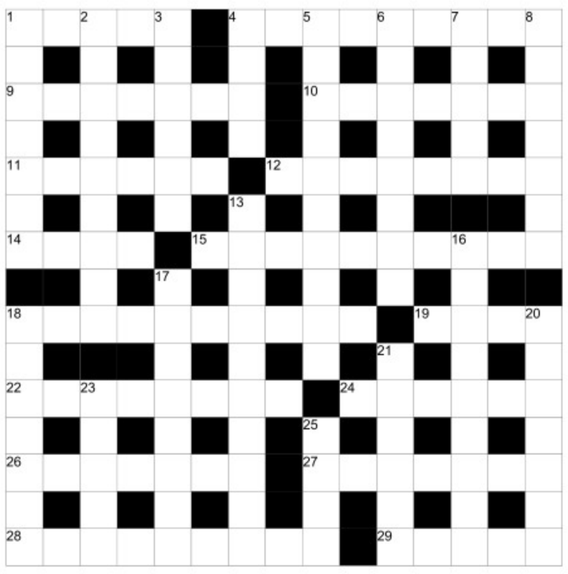
"China failed in its experiment of mixing modern medicine and Chinese traditional medicine; this also resulted in decimation of their traditional medicine," the statement by the doctors' body said.

TH CROSSWORD + 14499

(set by Gussalufz)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Masala French author rejected (5)
4 Took a walk with Sun editor, absorbing stirring nature (9)
9 Answer duo from reporters' small pool (7)
10 Escape a very boring racket going round (7)
11 The reason drinking is back, finally, is this drink! (6)
12 Backing grim reckoning for beaver-like creatures (8)
14 Apostle returning from Honolulu appointment (4)
15 Form and structure of swimming pool or gym (including height) (10)
18 Possibly crude European joins (is full of s***, unfortunately) (6,4)
19 Can Jack love Helen's clothes? (4)
22 Danger signal from valley, in concerning assertions, essentially (3,5)
24 Billionaire on top of crypto revolution suffering regular losses (6)
26 Papa, couch icky, is hiding rodent! (7)
27 By plugging running, he gets Australia's two openers stumped and run out (7)
28 Sweethearts quarrel, losing heads (it's a mistake) (9)
29 Suffer quietly, not about to reach closure (3,2)

Down

1 Squad entering to dine in mess (5-2)
2 Men addressed disorderliness? One's sure dubious (9)
3 Approves supporting credit limit of zero for criminals (6)
4 Very revolting commercial for beverage (4)
5 Aunt let off shackles, cracked jokes without preparation (10)
6 I appreciate that teenager cycling around a vacant nook (5,3)
7 Side with ChatGPT, perhaps, in "Loosely-copied Art" case (5)
8 Democracy ends with horrible rulers (7)
13 "Come forth, no more stealth at last... Cocktail of gin? It's helpful!" (10)
16 Pompous donor appallingly limits free tour (9)
17 Excellent! Is awesome to keep liberal bubbles in line (8)
18 Extreme right given a turn for variety (7)
20 Express negative ruling against partners (3-4)
21 Supply cheese sandwiches, fruit (6)
23 Electronic device died (rusted after trapping oxygen) (5)
25 Orderly is almost at hand with a bit of tea (4)

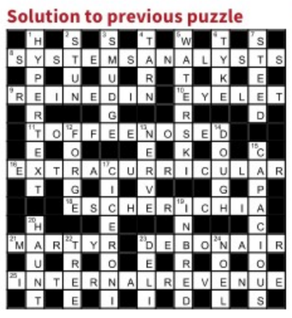
SUDOKU

	1	2		8	4			5
7	5			6				
							9	
4		5			6	1		
	9		7		3		4	
		3	4			2		9
	2							
				3			1	6
9			6	7		4	8	

No.SS6536 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	2	5	6	8	9	3	7	4
9	6	3	7	1	4	8	2	5
8	4	7	5	2	3	1	9	6
2	3	9	1	7	6	4	5	8
7	8	6	9	4	5	2	3	1
5	1	4	8	3	2	7	6	9
3	9	8	4	6	7	5	1	2
4	5	2	3	9	1	6	8	7
6	7	1	2	5	8	9	4	3

FAITH

Keeping the faith

Bad times may come into our lives in one form or another. Sita wailed and said destiny came to her in the form of a deer. Despite Lakshmana cautioning Sita, she did not pay heed and traduced him with derogatory remarks. Manas, Chittham and Buddhi are relative terms. If people are drawn to worldly things, it is called Chittham. Suppose we are in a state of wavering; it is known as Manas. A controlled and steady position is named Buddhi. Praying to God will make our minds steadfast and unwavering. Lord Krishna says in the *Bhagavad Gita* that He grants a "clean mind" to those who worship Him.

Sita says on our behalf that people may go berserk and lose their mental stability in times of adversity. We must be patient, exercise restraint, and be cautious during testing times. When the auspicious time arrives, it will automatically prompt our minds to think of noble things.

Sri Damodhara Dikshithar stated in a discourse that God reveals good or bad omens to those who have faith. It is a tradition for people to break coconuts in temples as a sign of good fortune. They pray that it should be correctly broken and should not be stale. For dire prognostications, if any, people may light lamps before God or pray to Goddess Durga.

Upon Hanuman's arrival, Sita experienced favourable omens at Ashokavana, indicating that good things would happen. Seeds dried up due to the wind and scorching sun would sprout with a spell of rain. Sita was all happy with the signs of good omens. Like the moon emerging from an eclipse with an incredible shine, Sita's dowdy face changed and glowed with all its brightness.

INBRIEF

LIC fully subscribes Adani Ports' ₹5,000-crore NCD issue

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Lt.d (APSEZ), said it has raised ₹5,000 crore through a 15-year Non-Convertible Debenture (NCD). The issue, locked in a competitive coupon rate of 7.75% p.a., was fully subscribed by LIC. The debentures will be listed on the BSE, the firm said. The proceeds will fund a proposed buyback of APSEZ's U.S. dollar bonds.

United India Insurance back in black, logs ₹154 cr. FY25 net

United India Insurance Company is back in black with ₹154 crore net profit for FY25. Compared with the ₹804 crore loss in FY24, it was an impressive turnaround. The firm made profit after several years, the State-owned general insurer said. Gross direct premium income stood at ₹20,072 crore, combined ratio was up 4% to 121.67% and client base raced past 2-crore mark.

BoB signs MoU with T.N. for salary accounts of govt. staff

Bank of Baroda (BoB) said it has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Tamil Nadu to offer a customised salary account package for employees of the State Government. The package comes with comprehensive insurance coverage at zero cost to the employees, making it one of the 'most attractive offerings in banking sector,' BoB said.

'Upload regulatory approval details for wireless devices'

The Union government is notifying regulations to mandate e-commerce platforms to provide copies of regulatory approval documentation for wireless devices such as Wi-Fi hotspots and walkie talkies, the Department of Consumer Affairs indicated on Friday in a press release and a notification uploaded to their website. The primary purpose of the notification, is to bolster existing regulations prohibiting the sale of unauthorised wireless electronics.

Government meets fiscal deficit target of 4.8% for FY25

Fiscal deficit, or difference between total expenditure and total revenue, at ₹15.77 lakh crore, stood at 4.8% based on latest provisional estimates of GDP for FY25; income tax collections fall short

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The Government of India has met its fiscal deficit target of 4.8% of GDP in 2024-25 though total receipts came in slightly lower than expected, as per data released by the Controller General of Accounts.

The Centre's total revenue – counting tax, non-tax and capital receipts – came in at ₹30.78 lakh crore in 2024-25 or 97.8% of its revised estimates for the year. Total expenditure stood at ₹46.55 lakh crore, also 97.8% of the estimates.

The fiscal deficit, the difference between total expenditure and total revenue, at ₹15.77 lakh crore, stood at 4.8% of GDP based on the latest provisional estimates for the year.

As part of the Centre's fiscal consolidation glide path, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had, in Budget speech in February, targeted fiscal deficit of 4.4% of GDP for FY26.

Closer examination of the data show total revenue fell short of the revised estimates due in large part to a shortfall in miscellaneous capital receipts, that includes disinvestment proceeds. There was also a minor shortfall in tax revenue. The Centre earned ₹17,202 crore as miscellaneous capital receipts or just 52.1% of revised estimates for FY25. Department of Investment and Public Asset Management data show the government earned ₹10,131.32 crore via disinvestments in 2024-25.

Corporate tax collection at ₹9.87 lakh crore in FY25 was 0.7% higher than revised estimates. Income tax collections, on the other hand, at ₹11.83 lakh crore were almost 6% lower than revised estimate.

Fiscal math

Total revenue fell short of the revised estimates due in large part to shortfall in miscellaneous capital receipts

- Centre earned just 52.1% of revised projections via miscellaneous capital receipts
- Divestment receipts stood at ₹10,131.32 crore in 2024-25
- Income tax collections at ₹11.83 lakh crore were almost 6% lower than estimates

IndiGo to drop Turkish Airlines lease pact by Aug. 31

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

IndiGo has given an undertaking to the DGCA to terminate pact with Turkish Airlines under which it uses the latter's two Boeing 777 aircraft and crew for flights to Istanbul from New Delhi and Mumbai.

"To avoid passenger inconvenience, IndiGo has been granted one-time final extension of 3 months up to 31. 08. 2025 for the damp leased aircraft," DGCA said in a statement.

IndiGo's Elbers for India as global hub for connecting flights

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

With 65% of the world population within 5-6 hours of flying distance from India, the country has the potential to be a global aviation hub as well as expand its outbound travel market, IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers said on Friday.

"If you realise that 65% of the world population lives within five to six hours of flying time from India, it basically means we have an opportunity to start building India not only as a point- to- point destination but also as a great place to connect," Mr. Elbers told the media.

To bolster the case for India, the IndiGo CEO said while the world was still recovering from the impact of COVID-19, India was expected to record 20% more passengers this year than pre-COVID-19.

"There is enormous opportunity as an international outbound tourism market. There is unstoppable growth," he said.

AI agents to process invoices at Infosys BPM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Infosys BPM, the business process management arm of Infosys, on Friday unveiled AI agents for invoice processing within its flagship Infosys Accounts Payable on Cloud solution.

Powered by Infosys Topaz, the innovation would redefine invoice processing by moving from a human-driven, AI-supported model to an autonomous AI-first approach, said the company.

'Gold lending norms must not hit small borrowers'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry has asked the Reserve Bank of India to ensure that the central bank's draft regulations on gold loans do not adversely impact small gold loan borrowers, and has noted that the new rules would be suitable to be implemented only by January 1, 2026.

This comes days after Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin wrote to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman voicing reservations about the RBI's draft rules, which the central bank had made public on April 9. The draft rules also elicited significant concern on social media.

"@DFS_India has given suggestions to the @RBI to ensure that the requirements of the small gold loan borrowers are not adversely affected," the Finance Ministry said on X.

"@DFS_India has also stated such guidelines will need time to implement at the field level and hence may be suitable for implementation from 1st January 2026," the Ministry added.

The DFS also suggested borrowers with loan sizes below ₹2 lakh be excluded from the proposed rules' requirements "to ensure timely and speedy disbursement of loans for such small ticket borrowers".

In his letter to Ms. Sitharaman, Mr. Stalin wrote that small and marginal farmers often lack formal land titles or verifiable income documentation, which makes the pledging of gold a viable and dignified route to access institutional credit.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,451	-0.22
US Dollar	85.55	-0.08
Gold	98,600	0.12
Brent oil	63.85	-0.62

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2519.90	-20.90
Adani Ports	1432.80	-5.80
Apollo Hosp	6880.50	-42.50
Asian Paints	2259.10	-35.20
Axis Bank	1192.20	-9.50
Bajaj Auto	8607.00	-267.50
Bajaj Finserv	2017.40	6.50
Bajaj Finance	9180.50	-23.50
Bharat Elec	384.60	-2.20
Bharti Airtel	1856.20	-7.40
Cipla	1465.70	-11.20
Coal India	397.30	-0.90
Dr Reddys Lab	1251.20	3.00
Eicher Motors	5333.50	-45.50
Eternal Ltd.	238.31	9.94
Grasim Ind	2545.80	-27.80
HCL Tech	1636.60	-28.10
HDFC Bank	1944.90	17.40
HDFC Life	776.85	-4.05
Hero MotoCorp	4309.30	-47.30
Hindalco	633.50	-16.50
Hind Unilever	2348.30	-18.40
ICICI Bank	1445.80	-10.70
IndusInd Bank	816.95	-7.20
Infosys	1562.70	-22.90
ITC	418.05	-0.70
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	286.65	-1.20
JSW Steel	993.50	-12.70
Kotak Bank	2074.70	-6.90
L&T	3675.10	19.80
M&M	2976.80	-32.20
Maruti Suzuki	12319.00	-73.00
NestleIndia	2396.20	-38.80
NTPC	333.90	-5.45
ONGC	239.40	-3.64
PowerGrid Corp	289.75	-3.35
Reliance Ind	1420.90	3.10
SBI Life	1812.20	-12.80
State Bank	812.30	14.95
Shriram Finance Ltd.	639.35	-12.90
Sun Pharma	1677.60	-22.20
TataConsumerProduct	1106.30	-3.50
Tata Motors	719.50	-4.95
Tata Steel	161.02	-2.10
TCS	3463.40	-34.70
Tech Mahindra	1573.90	-26.10
Titan	3555.00	-33.30
Trent Ltd.	5643.50	-13.50
UltraTech Cement	11210.00	-59.00
Wipro	249.67	-0.47

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 30

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.38	85.70
Euro	96.74	97.10
British Pound	115.08	115.51
Japanese Yen (100)	59.34	59.56
Chinese Yuan	11.86	11.91
Swiss Franc	103.58	103.99
Singapore Dollar	66.14	66.43
Canadian Dollar	61.81	62.04
Malaysian Ringitt	20.04	20.16
Australian Dollar	54.85	55.06

Source:Indian Bank

ANDHRA PRADESH CENTRAL POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD
Vidyut Nilayam, Corporate Office, ITI College Road, Vijayawada-520008.

Tender Notice No: CGM/PROJ/VJA/T&D WORKS/SIP-01/2025-26

Bids through **apeprocurement.gov.in** are invited from eligible bidders for "System Improvement Project for Survey, Design, Supply, Installation and Commissioning erection of Seven number new 33/11KV Outdoor Sub-Stations at Kopperam, Mallayapalem in Addanki Division, I.T.Varam (Gandibhavi Chenchugudem) in Markapur Division, Kalluru, Eluru in Darsi Division, Mannetikota in Kandukur Division and Housing Board Colony in Ongole Division in Bapatla and Ongole Circles of APCPDCL under T&D improvements on turnkey basis. The Tender information will be made available in AP e- procurement Portal from **30.05.2025, 18:00 Hrs,** Last date for Bid submission online is **12.06.2025, 16:00 Hrs.**

Sd/- Chief General Manager/Projects, APCPDCL :: Vijayawada
DIPR 4151PP/CL, Dt: 30.05.2025 **Email: cgmproj.cpdcl@apcpdcl.in**

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION
State Health & Family Welfare Society,
State Programme Monitoring & Support Unit,
Directorate of Health Services, General Hospital Junction,
Thiruvananthapuram 695035, Phone: 0471 2301181, 2302784
website: www.arogyakeralam.gov.in

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender ID:- (2025_SHA_766972_1)
No. NHM/222/Admin6/2025/SPMSU Dated 29.05.2025

National Health Mission (NHM) invites competitive offers for implementing Group Mediclaim policy for Employees and their Dependents, for details on e-Bids submission and tender document, visit the e-procurement portal (**https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**) and NHM official website (**https://arogyakeralam.gov.in/tenders-nhm-state-office/**).
Last date for tender submission - **11 am on 13.06.2025,**
Pre Bid Meeting - **11 am on 05.06.2025.**

Sd/- **STATE MISSION DIRECTOR (NHM)**

श्री कर्ण नरेन्द्र कृषि विश्वविद्यालय
कुलसचिव कार्यालय, जोबनेर, जयपुर (राज.) पिन. 303 329 Phone : 01425-254980
Email. id- registrar@sknau.ac.in

क्रमांक :- प.व्य.प./स्था-2/श्रीकनकृविवि/2281 दिनांक :- 06/05/2025

अन्तिम नोटिस

श्री रमा शंकर शर्मा (इलेक्ट्रीशियन) पुत्र श्री गोकुल चंद शर्मा,
प्लॉट नं. 14, गणेश नगर–8, निवारू रोड़, झोटवाड़ा–जयपुर – 302018,
मो.नं. : 9587878703

विषयः बिना अवकाश स्वीकृति के 10.10.2024 से अनुपस्थिति रहने बाबत।

जोबनेर स्थित इस विश्वविद्यालय के प्रशासनिक कार्यालय में आपकी नियुक्ति इलेक्ट्रीशियन के पद पर आदेश कृमांक प.71/स्था–2/श्रीकनकृविवि/2072 दिनांक 11.03.2024 के द्वारा की गयी थी, जिसकी अनुपालना में आप द्वारा दिनांक 20.03.2024 को कार्यग्रहण किया गया। आप दिनांक 10.10.2024 से आदिनांक तक बिना अवकाश स्वीकृति के कार्यालय से अनुपस्थित हैं।

आपको इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक क्रमशः 1243 दिनांक 12.11.2024, 1495 दिनांक 17.12.2024 एवं 2029 दिनांक 12.03.2025 आपकी ईमेल व रजिस्टर्ड डाक से प्रेषित कर कार्यालय में उपस्थित होने हेतु निर्देशित किया गया था।

अतः आपको आदेश दिया जाता है कि समाचार पत्र में इस नोटिस के प्रकाशन की तिथि से 07 दिवस के भीतर उपस्थित होवें अन्यथा नियमानुसार सेवा समाप्ति व न्यायिक (न्यायालय) कार्यवाही की जावेगी। और यदि आप कार्यग्रहण दिनांक से तीन वर्ष पूर्व विश्वविद्यालय सेवा छोड़ना चाहते हैं तो आपके द्वारा प्रस्तुत शपथ–पत्र व नियुक्ति की शर्तों के अनुसार रु. 3.00 (तीन) लाख वित्त नियंत्रक, श्री कर्ण नरेन्द्र कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, जोबनेर के पक्ष में डी.डी. बनवाकर अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता को प्रस्तुत करें।

राज.संवाद/सी/25/3322 **कुलसचिव**

इण्डियन ओवरसीज़ बैंक
Indian Overseas Bank
आपकी प्रगति का सच्चा साथी Good people to grow with
Information Technology Department
Central Office: 763, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600 002

Indian Overseas bank (IOB) invites bids for the following:

GOVERNMENT E-MARKET PORTAL - ENTRY AND MID LEVEL DESKTOPS (PROCUREMENT OF 2300 DESKTOPS UNDER BUYBACK ARRANGEMENT)

BID NO: GEM/2025/B/6281184 DATED: 27.05.2025

The Above GEM Tender document is also available and can be downloaded from the following websites **www.iob.in** & **www.gem.gov.in** For Tender details and future amendments, if any, keep referring to the following website **www.gem.gov.in**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT KOZHIKODE
IIM Kozhikode Campus (PO),
Kozhikode – 673 570
Ph: 0495 2809 461,212,218

NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION

IIM Kozhikode invites Quotation from eligible and qualified persons/firms for 'Designing and Printing of Annual Report of the Institute for 2024-25'.
For details visit:
https://iimk.ac.in/tender

Sd/-
Date : 30.05.2025 *Head - Admin & HR*

MADHYA PRADESH BUILDING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(An Agency of Govt. of M.P. Public Works Department)
16-A, CEDMAP Building, Arera Hills, Bhopal (M.P.)-462011
Telephone No. : 0755-4853297, 0755-4853295
E-mail : einc-mpbdc@mp.gov.in, dgmhqmpbdc@gmail.com
NIT No. : 3328/GM/MPBDC/CW/25/NIT-67 **Bhopal, Dated : 29.05.2025**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Madhya Pradesh Building Development Corporation Limited (MPBDC) Bhopal invites online tenders for the following works :-

1. Construction of Ayurveda College & Hospital at Dist. Narmadapuram M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 4,983.34 Lacs**
2. Construction of Composite District Office Building Maihar M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 2901.50 Lacs**
3. Construction work of residential quarters (E type 10, F type 14, G type 20, H type 13 and I type 10) at Ujjain M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 2,537.35 Lacs**
4. Construction of Government College, Orchha Dist. Niwadi M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 1129.79 Lacs**
5. Construction of Government College, Balwadhi Dist. Badwani M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 1124.09 Lacs**
6. Construction of Composite Tehsil Office Building at Kotma Dist. Anuppur M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 724.73 Lacs**
7. Construction of Composite Tehsil Office Building at Dist. Balaghat M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 633.01 Lacs**
8. Construction of Composite Tehsil Office Building at Ghatigaon Dist. Gwalior M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 633.82 Lacs**
9. Construction of Boundary wall at Govt. Autonomous Girls PG College of Excellence Dist. Sagar M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 143.97 Lacs**
10. Construction of Boundary wall at Govt. College Gulana Dist Shajapur M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 144.59 Lacs**
11. Construction of Boundary wall at Govt. College Rajnagar Dist. Chhatarpur M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 118.29 Lacs**
12. Construction of Boundary wall at Govt. College Pipliya Mandi Dist. Mandsaur (M.P.) - **PAC : Rs. 141.46 Lacs**
13. Construction of Boundary wall at Govt. College Bina Dist. Sagar M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 130.73 Lacs**
14. Construction of Boundary wall at Chaurai Dist. Chhindwara M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 168.19 Lacs**
15. Construction work of 100 bedded Critical Care Hospital Block (CCHB) in Gov. hospital, Dhar , M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 2423.00 Lacs**
16. (i) Construction and other associated works at Government Arts College, Niwas Mandla M.P. **PAC : Rs. 283.53 Lacs**
(ii) Construction of 50 Seated Boys and Girls Hostel at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Hathitara Dist. Mandla M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 364.12 Lacs (2nd Call)**
17. (i) Construction of Girls Toilet (08 Block Colleges) Barwani PG, GDC, NMDC, Anjad, Rajpur, Sendhwa, Niwai, Pansemal at Badwani Dhar (M.P.) - **PAC : Rs. 115.13 Lacs**
(ii) Girls Hostel (50 seats) with allied works, Barwani M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 338.98 Lacs (2nd Call)**
18. Various Construction and allied works in old College building Campus in Veer Balidani Khajya Nayak Government PG College, Sendhwa M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 295.81 Lacs (2nd Call)**
19. (i) Construction work of Incubation Center and allied works at Govt. College at Satna M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 531.66 Lacs**
(ii) Construction, renovation and upgradation with allied works in college building at Govt. College, Jaitwara Satna M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 338.5 Lacs (2nd Call)**
20. Construction and Renovation work at Government Chandra Vijay College, Dindori M.P. - **PAC : Rs. 233.82 Lacs (2nd Call)**

Detailed NIT and tender documents can be viewed, downloaded and purchased online from **05.06.2025 at 18:00 hrs. to 29.06.2025 at 15:30 hrs.** (for S. No. 01 to 14 only), **03.06.2025 at 18:00 hrs. to 26.06.2025 at 15:30 hrs.** (for S. No. 15 to 20 only), from website **www.mptenders.gov.in** PAC can vary at the time of uploading of tender document. Any amendment/ corrigendum 'if any' will be published on website only, will not be published on newspapers.
M.P. Madhyam/120337/2025 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

भारत सरकार/Government of India
अंतरिक्ष विभाग/Department of Space
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन/Indian Space Research Organisation
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र/VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
तिरुवनंतपुरम/Thiruvananthapuram-695 022

विज्ञापन सं. वीएसएससी-335 दिनांक 31.05.2025
ADVERTISEMENT NO. VSSC-335 DATED 31.05.2025
निम्नलिखित पदों के लिए ऑन-लाइन आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है
INVITES ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS

क्रम सं. Sl. No.	पद एवं वेतन स्तर/ Post & Pay Level	अनिवार्य योग्यता Essential Qualification(s)	रिक्तियों की सं. No. of vacancies
1	तकनीकी सहायक Technical Assistant स्तर/ Level 07 (₹44,900 - ₹1,42,400)	इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी इंजीनियरी/इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी एवं संचार इंजीनियरी/ इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी एवं दूरसंचार इंजीनियरी / इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी एवं यंत्रीकरण इंजीनियरी/यांत्रिक इंजीनियरी/उत्पादन इंजीनियरी/कंप्यूटर विज्ञान/इंजीनियरी/प्रौद्योगिकी/सूचान प्रौद्योगिकी/रासायनिक इंजीनियरी/रासायनिक प्रौद्योगिकी/ऑटोमोबाइल इंजीनियरी/ सिविल इंजीनियरी/प्रशीतन एवं एसी में प्रथम श्रेणी डिप्लोमा । First Class Diploma in Electronics Engineering / Electronics & Communication Engineering / Electronics & Tele communication Engineering / Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering / Mechanical Engineering / Production Engineering / Computer Science / Engineering / Technology / Information Technology / Chemical Engineering / Chemical Technology / Automobile Engineering / Civil Engineering / Refrigeration & AC.	76
2	वैज्ञानिक सहायक Scientific Assistant स्तर/ Level 07 (₹44,900 - ₹1,42,400)	भौतिकी/रसायन विज्ञान में प्रथम श्रेणी की उपाधि। First Class Bachelor's Degree in Physics / Chemistry.	05
3	पुस्तकालय सहायक-ए Library Assistant-A स्तर/ Level 07 (₹44,900 - ₹1,42,400)	1. स्नातक / Graduation. 2. पुस्तकालय विज्ञान/पुस्तकालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान में प्रथम श्रेणी स्नातकोत्तर की उपाधि । First Class Master's degree in Library Science/Library & Information Science.	02

विस्तृत विज्ञापन वीएसएससी वेबसाइट **https://www.vssc.gov.in** में दिया जाएगा। अभ्यर्थियों को सलाह दी जाती है कि पद सं., वेतन स्तर, अनिवार्य योग्यता(ओं), आयु सीमा, आरक्षण, प्रत्येक विधा में पदों की संख्या, कार्य की प्रकृति तथा विशेष टिप्पणियों, यदि काई है तो, के लिए विस्तृत विज्ञापन देखें ।
Detailed advertisement will be hosted in VSSC website **http://www.vssc.gov.in**. Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement for Post No., Pay Level, Essential Qualification(s), Age limit, Reservations, No. of Vacancies for each discipline, Nature of job and special notes if any.
1. उपर्युक्त पदों के लिए आवेदन केवल ऑन-लाइन प्राप्त किए जाएंगे। / Applications for the above posts will be received online only.
2. ऑन-लाइन आवेदन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए वेबसाइट **दिनांक 04.06.2025 को 1000 बजे से दिनांक 18.06.2025 को 1700 बजे** तक खुला रहेगा। / The website will be open for submission of on-line application from **1000 hours on 04.06.2025 to 1700 hours on 18.06.2025.**

"सरकार एक ऐसे कार्यबल का प्रयास करती है जो लिंग संतुलन की अभिव्यक्ति करता है तथा महिला अभ्यर्थियों को आवेदन देने हेतु प्रोत्साहित किया जाता है।"
"Government strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply".

National Dairy Development Board
PB No. 40, Anand, Gujarat-388001, Tel: 02692-260 148/149/160 Fax: 02692-260 159
Website: http://www.nddb.coop, Email: purchase@nddb.coop

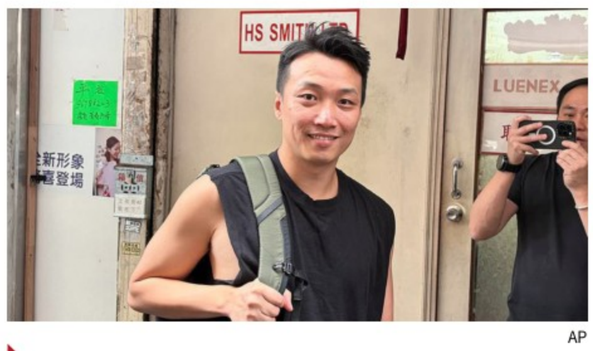
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) / LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (LCB)
Bids are invited on behalf of Service Recipients/ NDDB from eligible bidders for the works listed below:

Sr. No.	Description of works / Bid Reference	Estd. Cost (₹) incl GST/Duration	Event Start / Close Date	Bid submission / opening date & time
A	**Civil, Structural, Water Supply, Sanitary & Other Misc. works including Internal Electrification works for:**			
I	Renovation of Office Building with Interior Works, Furniture and Miscellaneous Civil Repairs at FES, Anand **NDDB/HO/Purchase/15/25-26/ET/15 [CIVIL-Anand]**	325 Lakh/ 8 Months	04.06.25/ 25.06.25	25.06.25 15:00 hrs. 25.06.25 15:30 hrs.
B	**Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of the following:**			
I	Strengthening of Existing ETP at Vidya Dairy, Anand **NDDB/HO/Purchase/16/25-26/ET/16 [ETP-Anand]**	400 Lakh/ 8 Months	31.05.25/ 23.06.25	23.06.25 15:00 hrs. 23.06.25 15:30 hrs.
II	HVAC, Modular Partitions and Allied works for HS, Warehouse and Other blocks at IIL Karkapatla, Telangana **NDDB/HO/Purchase/17/25-26/ET/17 [HVAC-Karkapatla]**	3600 Lakh/ 7 Months	03.06.25/ 24.06.25	24.06.25 15:00 hrs. 24.06.25 15:30 hrs.
III	DSITC of Grid connected 1000 KWp Solar PV System for CoE-BBBRC Project at Bhiladi, District Banaskantha, Gujarat **NDDB/HO/Purchase/18/25-26/ET/18 [SOLAR-Bhiladi]**	450 Lakh/ 6 Months	03.06.25/ 24.06.25	24.06.25 15:00 hrs. 24.06.25 15:30 hrs.
C	Providing security services at NDDB Kolkata **NDDB/HO/Purchase/9/25-26/ET/9 [SECURITY SERVICE KOLKATA]**	106 Lakh/ 12 Months	31.05.25/ 23.06.25	23.06.25 15:00 hrs. 23.06.25 15:30 hrs.

For further details pertaining to IFB and for downloading the bid document, please visit these websites: **www.nddb.coop**, and **www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocn** For any clarification please contact **Group Head (Purchase), NDDB, Anand-388001**
NB: Any corrigendum/modification etc. will be posted only on these websites.

HONG KONG

Hong Kong pro-democracy activist Jimmy Sham released from prison

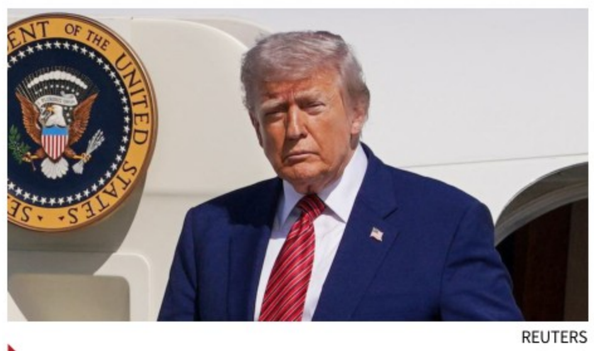


AP

Hong Kong's pro-democracy and LGBTQ+ activist Jimmy Sham was freed on Friday after over four years in prison for his role in the city's largest national security case. Mr. Sham, known for leading 2019 protests, continued LGBTQ+ advocacy while jailed, winning a landmark court ruling. AP

WASHINGTON

China has 'totally violated' Geneva deal with U.S. on tariffs: Trump



REUTERS

U.S. President Donald Trump on Friday said China had violated a deal with the U.S. to mutually roll back tariffs and trade restrictions for critical minerals and issued a new veiled threat to get tougher with Beijing. A U.S. official said it appears China was moving slow on promises to issue export licences for rare earth minerals. REUTERS

BEIRUT

Islamic State claims first attack on Syrian army since Assad's fall

AP

The Islamic State group in a statement on Thursday claimed responsibility for two bomb attacks in southern Syria, targeting government forces and the U.S.-backed Free Syrian Army. One attack killed or wounded seven soldiers, marking IS's first claimed assault on the Syrian army since Bashar Assad's fall. AP

JERUSALEM

Israel accuses France's Macron of 'crusade against the Jewish state'

AFP

Israel accused French President Emmanuel Macron of undertaking a "crusade against the Jewish state" on Friday after he called for European countries to harden their stance on Israel if the humanitarian situation in Gaza did not improve. "There is no humanitarian blockade," Israel's Foreign Ministry said. AFP

Pakistan to upgrade Afghanistan ties, appoint Ambassador to Kabul

China is believed to have played a key role in sorting out differences between the two countries; Afghan Foreign Minister is set to travel to Islamabad soon; Pakistan has long accused the Afghan Taliban of providing sanctuaries to TTP militants

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan on Friday announced to upgrade its diplomatic ties with Afghanistan and appoint an Ambassador to the country, a major indicator of improvement in ties between the two neighbours.

Pakistan had tacitly applauded the capture of Kabul by Taliban in 2021 with the hope that the regime would address its security concerns but it proved otherwise and cross-border attacks by the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) militants increased manifolds.

The ties plummeted as a result and Islamabad began accusing Kabul of providing sanctuaries to the TTP rebels while demanding action against them.

Thawing relations: Pakistan Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, left, with Afghanistan interim FM Amir Khan Muttaqi in Kabul in April. AP

The breakthrough in ties came through the trilateral mechanism of talks involving Afghanistan, China and Pakistan, when the Foreign Ministers of the three nations met this month in Beijing.

It is believed that China played a key role in sorting out differences between Pakistan and Afghanistan and the two agreed to upgrade diplomatic presence in their capitals.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar made the formal announcement, saying that the Pakistan-Afghanistan relations are on a positive trajectory after his visit to Kabul on April 19.

"To maintain this momentum, I am pleased to announce the decision of the Government of Pakistan to upgrade the level of its Chargé d'Affaires in Kabul to the level of Ambassador," Mr. Dar said in a statement on X.

In a related development, Afghan interim Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi is expected to travel to Islamabad soon on a first visit in two years, highlighting the growing high-level exchanges between the two neighbours in recent weeks, *The Express Tribune* newspaper reported.

In April, Foreign Minister Dar travelled to Kabul in a first visit by any Pakistani Minister in three years. The visit helped ease tensions between the two countries.

The Afghan Taliban's recent actions against groups posing a threat to Pakistan played a key role in the increased interaction between the two sides.

100% of Gazans at risk of famine, warns UN agency

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

Survival struggle: Palestinians struggle to get donated food at a community kitchen in Jabalia in northern Gaza Strip. AP

Gaza is "the hungriest place on Earth", the United Nations said on Friday, warning that the Palestinian territory's entire population was now at risk of famine.

Negotiations to end nearly 20 months of war have so far failed to achieve a breakthrough, with Israel resuming operations in Gaza in March, ending a six-week truce.

"Gaza is the hungriest place on Earth," said Jens Laerke, a spokesperson for the UN humanitarian agency OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs).

"It's the only defined area – a country or defined territory within a country – where you have the entire population at risk of famine. 100% of the population at risk of famine," he said, rejecting claims to the contrary by Israeli authorities.

At a press briefing in Geneva, Mr. Laerke detailed the difficulties faced by the United Nations in delivering humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip. In recent days, Israel has partially eased a total aid blockade on the Palestinian territory that it imposed on March 2, leading to severe shortages of food and medicine.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Israel Katz vowed to build a "Jewish Israeli state" in the Palestinian territory which Israel has occupied since 1967. "This is a decisive response to the terrorist organisations that are trying to harm and weaken our hold on this land," Mr. Katz said.

Healthy early voting in South Korea poll set off by martial law

Agence France-Presse
SEOUL

South Koreans joined long queues on Friday to cast their ballots early in a snap election triggered by the former President's disastrous bid to declare martial law.

The country is battling to draw a line under months of political turmoil sparked by Yoon Suk Yeol's brief suspension of civilian rule in December, for which he was impeached and removed from office.

South Korea has since been led by a series of lame-duck acting Presidents as its export-driven economy grapples with trade turmoil abroad and sluggish demand at home.

While election day is set for June 3, those who wanted to vote early were allowed to do so on Thursday and Friday.

Turnout stood at a healthy 34.7% of registered voters by the close of early voting on Friday, according to the National Election Commission.

75-year-old Sri Lankan refugee remanded on return to Jaffna

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

A 75-year-old Sri Lankan Tamil refugee, who returned from India after decades of displacement during the civil war, was on Thursday detained by Sri Lankan authorities at the Palaly airport in the northern Jaffna district, on charges of having left the country without a valid passport.

Subsequently, a magistrate court in Mallakam town remanded him to custody for a week, despite him obtaining necessary clearance from relevant agencies and being certified a "refugee" by the UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), according to a social media post by senior lawyer and former Jaffna MP M.A. Sumanthiran, who appeared for the man. "Is this a move by the government to frighten 10k others who've registered to return?" he asked on X.

Apparently responding to the post, which was picked up by local media, Cabinet Minister and Leader of the House Bimal Rathnayake said the remand was due to the automatic application of law to persons who had emigrated through a "non-legalised" port. "This law could have [been] changed after the war easily if people concerned had worked on it," he said on X, assuring that he had spoken to the subject Minister, and that immediate action would be taken to change the policy. "This is not government policy," he said, recalling his visit to refugee camps in India with a colleague in 2007, and his party, the JVP's (Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna) subsequent efforts to pass a law granting citizenship to 28,500 persons living in refugee camps in Tamil Nadu.

Nearly 58,000 Sri Lankans, who fled the raging civil war and its aftermath, live across refugee camps in Tamil Nadu. FILE PHOTO

Over the last two years, over 700 refugees who were living in camps have returned to Sri Lanka, according to S. Sooriyakumari, president, OfERR (Organisation for Eelam Refugees' Rehabilitation) Ceylon, a non-profit organisation working with Sri Lankan refugee communities in Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka. "Most of them have returned without any issue, so when we heard about this senior person's experience at Palaly, it was concerning. For many years now, our founder S.C. Chandrahasan and our organisation have been asking for a comprehensive package and programme for refugees seeking to return to Sri Lanka and re-start their lives," Ms. Sooriyakumari told *The Hindu*. "A structured policy and a clear programme should be devised in consultation with the law enforcement agencies so there is a shared understanding of this issue," she added.

Nearly 58,000 Sri Lankans, who fled the raging civil war and its aftermath, live across refugee camps in Tamil Nadu. An estimated 40,000 persons live outside the camps and are said to have integrated with the local community.

Sport

Gulveer completes a double; Pooja, Nandini corner glory; heartbreak for men's relay team

ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sports Bureau

Gulveer Singh became only the second Indian to claim the 5,000m-10,000m double gold at the Asian Athletics Championships and high jumper Pooja had the distinction of being the country's youngest champion in this edition as India added three gold and a silver to its tally on the penultimate day of the competition in Gumi, South Korea, on Friday. With this, India now has eight gold – two more than 2023 – seven silver and three bronze.

Gulveer clocked 13:24.77 to add the 5K to his 10K gold from day one to emulate Govindan Lakshmanan's feat from 2017 and complete his double. Preserving energy but still staying part of the five-member leader pack till the last lap in hot and humid conditions, Gulveer gradually accelerated to open space, then kicked off with a burst of power in the final 200m to take the lead. Even though Kieran Tuntivate of Thailand and Nagiya Mori of Japan pushed hard, Gulveer had no problems crossing the finish line comfortably in front. Abhishek Pal finished sixth in 13:33.51.

Grand show: Gulveer emulated Lakshmanan by winning the 5,000m and 10,000m. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In heptathlon, Agasara Nandini consolidated her lead at the top to win gold in style to finish with 5941 points. In the process, she also improved her personal best by more than 100 points, having totalled 5813 during the recent Federation Cup.

Nandini and Pooja... a day to remember. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

But the biggest surprise was from 18-year old Pooja, who set a new under-20 national record with a massive 1.89m jump to not only become the Asian champion in her maiden international outing at any level but also ensure India's first gold in a field event at the ongoing competition. Pooja, who jumped 1.85m at the national under-18 championships last year and equalled it at the Indian Open last month, also became only the second Indian woman high jumper to win a medal at the Asians after Bobby Aloysius in 2002.

In the 3,000m steeplechase, Parul Chaudhary broke her own national record for the second time in less than a fortnight but was still unable to defend her title, managing a silver in 9:12.46, two seconds behind Norah Jeruto Tanui of Kazakhstan. The former Kenyan World champion had switched nationalities in 2022.

Both Pooja and Twinkle Chaudhary, meanwhile, advanced to the final of the 800m, the former with a personal best of 2:02.70 in second spot and latter in 2:04.21. Krishan Kumar and Anu Kumar too booked their spots in the 800m with top-two finishes in their respective heats. Anu Raghavan and Vithya Ramraj too advanced to the 400m hurdles final while Animesh Kujur did so in the 200m.

Sachin Yadav and Yashvir Singh both advanced to the javelin throw finals with efforts of 79.62m and 76.67m respectively for automatic qualification. Pakistan's Olympic champion Arshad Nadeem, in his first competition since the Paris Games, threw a massive 86.34m in his opening attempt to top qualification.

The Indian men's 4x100m side, however, had to face a disastrous disqualification after officials deemed the first baton between Pranav Gurav and Ragul Kumar was exchanged outside the designated zone. Surprisingly, national record holder Gurindervir Singh was not fielded in the heat.

FIRST INDIAN

Rohit reaches 300 maximums in IPL, only Gayle has more

R.V. MOORTHY

Rohit Sharma became the first Indian batter, and the second overall, to smash 300 sixes in the IPL. Chris Gayle tops the list with 357 (141 innings) while Rohit's came in his 266th visit to the crease. Virat Kohli has hit 291 maximums (258 innings) while M.S. Dhoni (264 in 242) and A.B. de Villiers (251 in 170) follow in that order.

DUBIOUS DISTINCTION

Mendis joins the list of batters dismissed hit wicket in the league

R.V. MOORTHY

Kusal Mendis, on Friday, became the 18th batter to be dismissed hit wicket in the IPL. Musavir, Misbah, Asnodkar, Jadeja, Tiwary, Yuvraj, Hooda, Warner, Jackson, Parag, Hardik, Rashid, Bairstow, Sai Sudharsan, Badoni, Abhinav Manohar and Krunal are the others to get out in this fashion in the history of the league.

GO-TO BOWLER

Whenever the game is going away, just bring Bumrah back: Hardik

R.V. MOORTHY

Whenever you think the game is going away, just bring him (Bumrah) back. When you have that it's a luxury. It's like Mumbai housing prices — he's that expensive. It was important that Jassi comes and bowls that over (18th) so that the margin becomes bigger — MI captain Hardik Pandya on Jasprit Bumrah's effect.

A REVERSE

Indian women's football team loses to Uzbekistan in first friendly

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Diyorakhon Khabibullaeva struck the solitary goal for Uzbekistan as the Indian women's football team went down 0-1 in the first of two friendlies in Bengaluru on Friday. Khabibullaeva broke the deadlock in the 56th minute to secure the win. The two teams will face off again on June 3.

Senior pros Rohit, Bumrah to the fore as MI eliminates GT in a run-fest

The former rides his luck to take the five-time champion to 228; the latter produces yet another masterclass in death-bowling to help his side set up a clash with Punjab Kings in Sunday's Qualifier 2; Sai Sudharsan and Washington's heroics go in vain for the Gujarat side

IPL-18

Vivek Krishnan
NEW CHANDIGARH

In a high-scoring Eliminator at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh Stadium that had all the ingredients of an IPL classic, Mumbai Indians just about held its composure and eked out a 20-run win over Gujarat Titans on Friday.

The tense victory helped the five-time champion set up a clash with Punjab Kings in Qualifier 2 on Sunday.

Powered by Rohit Sharma's 50-ball 81, MI amassed 228 for five after opting to bat on a strip devoid of demons.

In response, Titans fought gamely thanks to excellent contributions from B. Sai Sudharsan and Washington Sundar in particular, but it didn't suffice. They finished on 208 for six.

Turning point: Sai Sudharsan falls to Gleeson after a sublime knock. R.V. MOORTHY

Gill falls early

GT's daunting chase was off to a dreadful start with Shubman Gill falling to Trent Boult's deadly inswinger. It put the onus on Sai Sudharsan to summon his whole gamut of shots and bat deep.

The southpaw did his best in the circumstances, conjuring up a sublime 49-ball 80 that illustrated why he is cut out for greater honours. Seldom did he overhit, relying instead on his exquisite timing to pierce gaps and hit fours at frequent intervals.

At the other end, Washington was just as dazzling on his way to 48. Cuts, drives and pulls featured in his knock as the left-hand batter took Boult apart in an 18-run 13th over.

The two Tamil Nadu lads forged a partnership of 84 off just 44 balls. It needed a peach of a yorker from Jasprit Bumrah to send Washington back to the dugout.

But at no stage did Titans retreat. Even after Sudharsan was castled by Richard Gleeson, Sherfane Rutherford, Rahul Tewatia and M. Shahrukh Khan unleashed some big hits.

But Bumrah's four overs costing a thrifty 27 runs proved to be the difference.

Costly misses

Earlier, Rohit, who was fortunate to be dropped on 3 and 12, put together an opening stand of 84 with Jonny Bairstow.

While the Englishman sparked the onslaught, Rohit came into his own once spin was introduced.

He took 14 runs off left-arm spinner R. Sai Kishore's opening over with a series of sweeps that sped to the boundary.

He employed the shot to great effect against Rashid Khan too. That Suryakumar Yadav, Tilak Varma and Hardik Pandya hit three sixes each also came in handy at the end.

Blazing away: Rohit rode his luck en route a 50-ball 81. R.V. MOORTHY

SCOREBOARD

MUMBAI INDIANS
Rohit Sharma c Rashid b Prasidh 81 *(50b, 9x4, 4x6)*, Jonny Bairstow c Coetzee b Sai Kishore 47 *(22b, 4x4, 3x6)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Washington b Sai Kishore 33 *(20b, 1x4, 3x6)*, Tilak Varma c Mendis b Siraj 25 *(11b, 3x6)*, Hardik Pandya (not out) 22 *(9b, 3x6)*, Naman Dhir c Rashid b Prasidh 9 *(6b, 1x6)*, Mitchell Santner (not out) 0 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-7, w-4): 11; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 228.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-84 (Bairstow, 7.2 overs), 2-143 (Suryakumar, 12.6), 3-186 (Rohit, 16.4), 4-194 (Tilak, 17.2), 5-206 (Naman, 18.4).

TITANS BOWLING
Siraj 4-0-37-1, Prasidh 4-0-53-2, Sai Kishore 4-0-42-2, Rashid 4-0-31-0, Coetzee 3-0-51-0, Washington 1-0-7-0.

GUJARAT TITANS
B. Sai Sudharsan b Gleeson 80 *(49b, 10x4, 1x6)*, Shubman Gill lbw b Boult 1 *(2b)*, Kusal Mendis hit wicket b Santner 20 *(10b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Washington Sundar b Bumrah 48 *(24b, 5x4, 3x6)*, Sherfane Rutherford **(Impact Player for Siraj)** c Tilak b Boult 24 *(15b, 4x4)*, Rahul Tewatia (not out) 16 *(11b, 1x4, 1x6)*, M. Shahrukh Khan c Suryakumar b Ashwani 13 *(7b, 1x6)*, Rashid Khan (not out) 0 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-2, w-4): 6; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 208.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-3 (Gill, 0.4), 2-67 (Mendis, 6.2), 3-151 (Washington, 13.4), 4-170 (Sai Sudharsan, 15.4), 5-193 (Rutherford, 18.1), 6-208 (Shahrukh, 19.4).

MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING
Boult 4-0-56-2, Bumrah 4-0-27-1, Gleeson 3.3-0-39-1, Hardik 3-0-37-0, Santner 1-0-10-1, Naman 1-0-9-0, Ashwani **(Impact Player for Rohit)** 3.3-0-28-1.
Toss: MI; **PoM:** Rohit.
MI won by 20 runs.

Karun roars on the opening day against the Lions

All class: Karun hit 24 fours and a six in his unbeaten 186.
GETTY IMAGES

INDIA-A IN ENGLAND

Press Trust of India
CANTERBURY

Karun Nair was elegance personified while serving a timely reminder to the Gautam Gambhir-led team management with a classy unbeaten 186 as India-A cruised to 409 for three against a below-par England Lions on the opening day of the first 'Test' here on Friday.

India-A batters made the best use of loose deliveries but the quality of Lions bowling attack and nature of the track might not be an appropriate reflection of what can be expected in Test matches.

Karun's innings had 24 fours and one six. It couldn't have come at a more opportune time as Gambhir frets over his batting combination for the opening Test against England at Leeds, starting June 20.

Huge partnership

Sarfaraz Khan (92 off 119 balls) blended a bit of muscle and a lot of cheekiness but missed out on a three-figure mark after doing all the hard work.

The duo added 181 runs for the third wicket and then Dhruv Jurel (82 batting) made merry during the 177-run stand for the unbroken fourth wicket.

The scores: India-A 409/3 in 90 overs (Karun Nair 186 batting, Sarfaraz Khan 92, Dhruv Jurel 82 batting) vs England Lions.
Toss: England Lions.

Wily Inter Milan will aim to stop the PSG juggernaut

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
MUNICH

Favourite Paris Saint-Germain has its sights fixed on finally winning the Champions League trophy but a rugged and battle-hardened Inter Milan side stand in its way in Saturday's final here.

The climax to the European season has thrown up a mouthwatering clash of opposing styles and ideas of how to build a team.

It is a contest between one of the continent's old guard and one of the state-owned modern superclubs.

Luis Enrique's thrilling young Paris side – average age under 24 – has taken Europe by storm.

Glory beckons: Will Inzaghi's battle-hardened veterans trump Enrique's exciting young team is the moot point. REUTERS

The catalyst

A brilliant comeback win in January against 2023 champion Manchester City was the catalyst for a superb run as PSG eliminated three more Premier League sides – Liverpool, Aston Villa and Arsenal – en route to the final.

Ousmane Dembele has been the standout with 33 goals in all competitions, ably assisted by fellow forwards Desire Doue, Bradley Barcola and January signing Khvicha Kvaratskhelia.

Others like Achraf Hakimi, formerly of Inter and perhaps the world's best full-back, and Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma have also been superb for the French league and cup double winners.

Inter, meanwhile, is bidding to win a fourth European Cup to add to back-to-back triumphs under Helenio Herrera in the 1960s, and the 2010 victory against Bayern in Madrid, under Jose Mourinho.

Coach Simone Inzaghi was already in charge when the Nerazzurri got to the final two years ago and lost narrowly to City.

Inter will set up in a 3-5-2 formation that contrasts with PSG's 4-3-3, and it will be fascinating to see how they respond to losing out to Napoli for the Serie A title on the last day of the season.

Sabalenka, Zheng and Swiatek move into last 16; Musetti gets past Navone

FRENCH OPEN

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Top women's seed Aryna Sabalenka and Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen eased into the French Open last 16 on Friday as Italy's Lorenzo Musetti rallied from a set down to book his ticket to the men's fourth round.

Sabalenka produced a dominant display in a 6-2, 6-3 win over Serbian left-hander Olga Danilovic.

The 27-year-old Belarusian next plays 16th-seeded American Amanda Anisimova for a place in the quarterfinals. Anisimova ousted Danish 22nd seed Clara Tauson 7-6(4), 6-4 in their third-round tie.

Zheng ended the run of Canadian teenager Victoria Mboko 6-3, 6-4. The Chinese eighth seed has now won nine successive matches at Roland Garros following her run to Olympic gold last year.

Love affair continues: Zheng posted her ninth straight win at Roland-Garros following her run to the Olympic gold. GETTY IMAGES

IMPORTANT RESULTS

Men: Third round: 8-Musetti (Ita) bt Navone (Arg) 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2; 25-Popyrin (Aus) bt Borges (Por) 6-4, 7-6(11), 7-6(5); 12-Paul (USA) bt 24-Khachanov (Rus) 6-3, 3-6, 7-6(7), 3-6, 6-3

Doubles: Second round: Yuki & Galloway (USA) bt 7-Mektic (Cro) & Venus (NZ) 6-7(4), 7-6(7), 6-3.

Women: Third round:
1-Sabalenka (Blr) bt Danilovic (Srb) 6-2, 6-3; 16-Anisimova (USA) bt 22-Tauson (Den) 7-6(4), 6-4; 8-Zheng (Chn) bt Mboko (Can) 6-3, 6-4.

19-Samsonova (Rus) bt Yastremska (Ukr) 6-2, 6-3; 5-Swiatek (Pol) bt Cristian (Rou) 6-2, 7-5. 4-Paolini (Ita) bt Starodubtseva (Ukr) 6-4, 6-1; 12-Rybakina (Kaz) bt 21-Ostapenko (Lat) 6-2, 6-2.

Zheng, who is through to the fourth round in Paris for the second time, will next play Russian 19th seed Liudmila Samsonova who brushed aside Ukraine's Dayana Yastremska 6-2, 6-3. Eighth seed Musetti won 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 against unseeded Argentine Mariano Navone in three hours and 25 minutes on Court Suzanne Lenglen.

Three-time reigning champion Iga Swiatek battled past unseeded Romanian Jaqueline Cristian 6-2, 7-5 to reach the fourth round.

In men's doubles, Yuki Bhambri and Robert Galloway advanced to round three after stunning seventh seeds Nikola Mektic and Michael Venus. The Indo-American duo edged past the Croatian-Kiwi pair 6-7(4), 7-6(7), 6-3.

Saturday's Picks

WOMEN
2-Gauff vs Bouzkova
3-Pegula vs Vondrousova
6-Andreeva vs 32-Putintseva
7-Keys vs 31-Kenin
10-Badosa vs 17-Kasatkina

MEN
1-Sinner vs Lehecka
3-Zverev vs Cobolli
5-Draper vs Fonseca
6-Djokovic vs Misolic
14-Fils vs 17-Rublev

Challengers begin quest for a hat-trick

UTT

Amol Karhadkar
AHMEDABAD

When Harmeet Desai led the Dempo Goa Challengers to a terrific triumph in Chennai last September, the team scripted history by becoming the first team to win two titles, and that too back-to-back, in Ultimate Table Tennis.

As league returns for its sixth edition, Challengers would be gunning for a hat-trick of triumphs.

Challengers begin their quest by taking on Ahmedabad SG Pipers.

Pipers had a topsy-turvy campaign to its campaign in the last edition. Despite receiving a setback in Manika Batra's late pull out due to a conspicuous injury, Pipers would be banking on Ayhika Mukherjee to grab the opportunity.

Saturday's fixtures: Jaipur Patriots vs. Dabang Delhi T.T.C. (5 p.m.); Ahmedabad SG Pipers vs. Dempo Goa Challengers (7.30 p.m.).

Hazlewood credits experience for growth

That the Australian could adapt to the demands of T20 first became apparent in 2021, when he took 11 scalps in nine matches for title-winning CSK

Metronomic: Hazlewood has been one of the key players for RCB. K. MURALI KUMAR

CRICKET

Vivek Krishnan
NEW CHANDIGARH

If Josh Hazlewood was roused from his sleep in the dead of night and handed a cricket ball, he would likely land it on a good length at the first time of asking. Such is the 34-year-old's metronomic accuracy, a trait that has made him a fundamental part of Australia's pace attack in Tests for the last decade.

But what is a virtue in the longest format can be a bane in the T20 version. It seemed to be the case for Hazlewood in the first half of his career, with his predictable lengths allowing batters to line him up and play the big shots. His T20I appearances for Australia were confined to just seven before 2020.

Adjusting to demands

It is a tribute to Hazlewood's skill and resolve, then, that he has adjusted to the demands of the shortest format in recent years.

That he could do so first became apparent in 2021, when he took 11 scalps in nine matches for title-winning Chennai Super Kings in his second IPL. He went on to be an integral part of the Australian team that won the 2021 T20 World Cup.

Exhilarating run

This year, he has been the leader of Royal Challengers Bengaluru's attack, claiming 21 wickets in his team's exhilarating run to the final.

He played a key role in effecting Punjab Kings' implosion with the bat on Thursday with figures of 3.1-0-21-3.

Hazlewood attributed his improvement in T20s to acquiring greater experience. "Yeah, just the opportunity and experience of playing the format more often, obviously mostly international but IPL as well, I think I have really improved," Hazlewood told the media.

"You just learn every year and you sort of just put it into your arsenal and remember that the next time.

"You can train all you want, but playing T20 cricket is probably the main thing that has made me improve as a T20 bowler. It is purely learning from the experiences."

INBRIEF

Satwik & Chirag outplay world No. 1 pair Goh-Nur

India's top men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty stayed on course for their maiden title of the season, storming into the Singapore Open semifinals with a straight-game win over world No. 1 Malaysian duo of Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin here on Friday. Making a comeback after battling fitness issues for the last few weeks, the Indian pair displayed rock-solid defence and controlled the front court with precision to register a 21-17, 21-15 win in a 39-minute quarterfinal clash at the Super 750 badminton tournament.

Deepak, Kiran reach summit clash in Thailand boxing

Deepak (75kg) and Kiran (women's 80+kg) reached summit clashes of their respective weight classes at the Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament in Bangkok on Friday. Deepak defeated home favourite Peerapat Yeasu, while Kiran got past Ukraine's Polina Chernen with an identical 5-0 margin. Priya (57kg) and Saneh (70kg) lost in the semifinals.

Rich haul of medals by India's women wrestlers

Indian women wrestlers, including World championships bronze medallist Antim Panghal, landed four gold medals in the Ulaanbaatar Open Ranking Series on Friday. Paris Olympian Antim won all her matches, including the final where she outsmarted Nataliya Malysheva 10-0, convincingly. Neha (57kg), Muskan (59kg) and Harshita (72kg) also secured gold medals, while Neelam (50kg) got a bronze. Greco Roman wrestler Suraj (60kg) bagged a silver.

Indian junior women's hockey team suffers a reverse

India suffered a 1-3 defeat in shootout against Chile after the regulation time ended in a 2-2 stalemate in the four-nations junior women's friendly hockey tournament in Rosario, Argentina. Sukhveer Kaur (35) and Kanika Siwach (47) scored for India, while Jacinta Solari (27) and captain Laura Muller (42) struck for Chile. Chile won the shootout 3-1. India will face Uruguay in their fifth match of the tournament on June 1.

Gukesh wins a thriller

NORWAY CHESS

Press Trust of India
STAVANGER

Reigning world champion D. Gukesh emerged winner in a thrilling Armageddon tie-break against American Grandmaster Fabiano Caruana but Arjun Erigaisi succumbed to Magnus Carlsen's intuitive skills on a mixed day for the Indians in the Open category of the Norway Chess here.

Both Gukesh and Erigaisi are now tied fourth in the six-payer field with 4.5 points apiece

Carlsen is the sole leader with eight points, followed by Caruana on seven.

In the women's section, R. Vaishali earned a crucial half point by overcoming Ukraine's Anna Muzychuk.

The results: (Open): Magnus Carlsen (Nor, 8) bt Arjun Erigaisi (4.5); D. Gukesh (4.5) bt Fabiano Caruana (USA, 7) in Armageddon tie-break; Hikaru Nakamura (USA, 5.5) lost to Wei Yi (Chn, 4).

Women: Sara Khadem (Esp, 5) bt Li Tingjie (Chn, 4); Ju Wenjun (Chn, 5.5) bt Koneru Humpy (7) in Armageddon tie-break; R. Vaishali (3.5) bt Anna Muzychuk (Ukr, 7) in Armageddon tie-break.

SNAPSHOTS

Basavanagudi Aquatic Centre reigns supreme

BENGALURU: Basavanagudi Aquatic Centre (BAC) secured both the men's and women's titles at the NRJ Senior State Water Polo Championship held in Bengaluru. Chaitanya Umashankar was adjudged the best men's player while C. Nithya bagged the women's award.

Ansh, Rujula in last eight

Top seeds Ansh Negi and Rujula Ramu progressed to the U-19 singles quarterfinals of the Yonex-Sunrise All-India junior-ranking badminton tournament being held in Bengaluru. While Rujula beat Taranjeet Kaur 21-16, 21-9, Ansh had to dig deep to overcome G. Sugi Sai Bala Singha 20-22, 21-10, 21-12.

Hari Krishnan excels

Hari Krishnan scored 28 points as Young Orion's SC beat JSC 68-61 in a boys' match at the State junior (u-18) basketball championship for D.N. Rajanna Memorial Trophy in Bengaluru.

In a girls' match, Devi Priya top-scored with 22 points as Vivek's SC defeated JSC 50-37.

Aerit's ton fashions Six's big victory

Aerit's century (111) was instrumental in Six Cricket Academy's convincing 83-run win over RX Cricket Academy in a Tiger Cup U-14 cricket tournament match.

The scores: Six CA 242/4 in 30 overs (Aerit 111, Ved Nahar 39, Krishay Bhat 25) bt RXCA 159/9 in 30 overs (V. Vivaan 60, Aarav A. Thakur 39, K.N. Chirag 3/23).

CBT 121 in 24.3 overs (Rupankar Nandi 27, Nikhil Shankar 4/23, R. Kartik 3/20) lost to Criclife CA 124/2 in 17.3 overs (Mahin Srikanth 72, R. Lalithesh 25).

Social Cricketers 304/6 in 30 overs (Ryan Tomar 134, Vyom Naidu 54, Bhavin Joe Francis 36, Shaurya A. Gowda 27) bt RKO3 178/9 in 30 overs (Sachith M. Yadav 57, Mohammad Yaseen 37, Jeevan Krishna 3/39).

DPS East 248/7 in 30 overs (Dhruv 81, Krishna Kumar 66, Vishnu Satwik 32) bt Samprasiddhi 124 in 22.2 overs (Rajveer Choudhary 59, K. Ujjwal 4/27).

Massive win for Ambedkar FC

Ambedkar FC blanked BHEL FC 10-0 in a Group-G match of the BDFA C-division league here on Friday.

Other results: BDFA C-div: Group G: Misaka United FC bt Hindu Socials FC 2-1; Vivekananda FC bt Triveni FC 5-1; Group H: Gouthama FC bt Oriental FC 4-0; Empire FC bt Afghan FC 3-0.

KSFA C-div: Annsh Sports Club bt Baseweshwara Nagara 13-0; PlaySmart FC bt BSS FC 1-0; FCA Bengaluru 1 drew with Vanquisher FC 1.

Real confirms signing of Alexander-Arnold

MADRID: Real Madrid confirmed the signing of defender Trent Alexander-Arnold on Friday in time for the Club World Cup after paying a reported fee of $11 million to Liverpool. The 26-year-old England right back has agreed to a six-year deal through June 2031, the Spanish club said. Madrid said Alexander-Arnold will play for Xabi Alonso's team at the Club World Cup to be held in mid-June.

LIVE TELECAST

Roland Garros: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 (SD & HD), LIV & FanCode, 2.30 & 8.30 p.m.

Formula One: Monaco GP (Qualifying), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro App & FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

Norway Chess: Sony LIV, 8.30 p.m.

Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Sunday)

Champions Way primed to deliver in feature

BENGALURU: Champions Way, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the Chettinad Stud Plate (1,600m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Saturday (May 31). False rails (width about 2.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 CLASSICAL ACT PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 6-y-o & over, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Raffles (5) Trevor 60.5, 2. Southernaristocrat (1) Antony 60, 3. Ice Storm (7) M. Rajesh K 58.5, 4. Sacred Creator (8) Ramswarup 58.5, 5. El Alamein (3) Bhawani S 57.5, 6. Burning Arrow (2) Angad 56, 7. Embosom (6) Jagadeesh 56 and 8. Recreator (4) Koshi K 54.
1. RAFFLES, 2. SACRED CREATOR, 3. BURNING ARROW

2 WORLD NO-TOBACCO DAY PLATE (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-30: 1. Efficacy (8) Shreyas S 56, 2. Juracan (4) Trevor 56, 3. Knight Regent (6) Neeraj 56, 4. Ksepiman (1) I. Chisty 56, 5. Ransomware (10) Angad 56, 6. Seneca (2) Sandesh 56, 7. Adornment (11) Akshay K 54.5, 8. Assurances (7) R. Vaibhav 54.5, 9. Blind Faith (9) A.A. Vikrant 54.5, 10. Galway Girl (3) Vishal Bunde 54.5 and 11. Sunshine (5) S. Saqlain 54.5.
1. EFFICACY, 2. JURACAN, 3. SUNSHINE

3 ROMANTIC DANCE PLATE (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 3-00: 1. Lex Luthor (3) A. Prakash 60, 2. Amazing Stride (2) C. Umesh 59, 3. Adelanto (5) R. Vaibhav 58.5, 4. Vibrant Queen (8) P.P. Dhebe 58.5, 5. Pursuit Of Wealth (4) Sai Kiran 58, 6. Verrazzano (9) G. Praveen 58, 7. Wild Cannon (7) Md. Ashraf Reza 58, 8. Divine Protector (1) R. Pradeep 57 and 9. Martha (6) M. Rajesh K 56.
1. AMAZING STRIDE, 2. ADELANTO, 3. DIVINE PROTECTOR

4 MARILINGAIAH MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Exclusive Black (2) C.A. Brisson 60, 2. Crimson Flame (5) Koshi K 57.5, 3. Divine Star (1) Trevor 57, 4. Aquastic (4) Akshay K 56, 5. Flash (3) Rayan 54, 6. Walking Thunder (8) I. Chisty 53, 7. Grenoble (6) Hindu S 52 and 8. Kerrygold (7) Vishal Bunde 52.
1. DIVINE STAR, 2. AQUASTIC, 3. GRENOBLE

5 DHARMAPRAKASHA L.S. VENKAJI RAO MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), rated 60 to 85, 4-00: 1. Metzinger (8) Pavan 60, 2. English Bay (1) R. Pradeep 59.5, 3. Mayne Magic (10) Antony 59.5, 4. Forseti (12) Darshan 59, 5. All Attraction (4) G. Vivek 57.5, 6. Arkadian (5) S. Saqlain 56, 7. Invincible (6) Angad 54, 8. Asagiri (11) Siddaraju P 53, 9. Eaton Square (7) A.S. Peter 53, 10. Secret Saint (2) Trevor 53, 11. Elpenor (9) Shreyas S 52 and 12. Fortunate Son (3) N.S. Parmar 50.5.
1. SECRET SAINT, 2. ARKADIAN, 3. MAYNE MAGIC

6 CHETTINAD STUD PLATE (1,600m), rated 80 & above, 4-30: 1. Queen Of Kings (1) M. Prabhakaran 61.5, 2. Champions Way (3) Suraj 55, 3. Casteel (4) Ramswarup 53, 4. Sativur (2) I. Chisty 52.5, 5. Mescalito (6) Akshay K 51 and 6. Star Of Night (5) Neeraj 51.
1. CHAMPIONS WAY, 2. CASTEEL

7 ROMANTIC DANCE PLATE (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Carat Love (9) B. Dharshan 60.5, 2. Extraordinary (5) R. Robert 60.5, 3. Monterio (–) (–) 60, 4. Eclipse Pulse (3) Asirvatham 58.5, 5. Double Vision (7) Salman Khan 56.5, 6. Stentorian (2) Shezad Khan 56.5, 7. Star Honour (10) Darshan 55.5, 8. The Commander (4) Shivam 54, 9. Higgs Boson (8) M. Rajesh K 53.5 and 10. Highland Dream (1) I. Chisty 53.
1. STENTORIAN, 2. CARAT LOVE, 3. STAR HONOUR

Day's best: **SECRET SAINT**
Double: **EFFICACY - DIVINE STAR**
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

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A BG-BGE